ABOVE: CAB's new scheme proves a success. (See page 6).

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Full National Eisteddfod Coverage Inside

The Ogmore Valley Silver Band wow the Eisteddfod!

ABOVE: The Ogmore Valley Silver Band at the National Eisteddfod last Saturday, with conductor Alice Jones, front row (centre). SEE PAGE 10 FOR THE FULL STORY

The GEM on the Maes

AFTER months of anticipation, the big day dawned last Saturday (August 4) when the National Eisteddfod came to Llandow in the Vale.

Saturday was the official first day, although there had been a gala concert on the Friday night, featuring Tim Rhys Evans' 'Aloud' franchise – Only Men, Only Boys, and Only Vale Kids Aloud, in a show that not only paid homage to Welsh choral tradition, but also moved that tradition into a new era.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12)

Campaigning group's call to revive Bay

by PHILIP IRWIN

A PORTHCAWL campaigning group has called on Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) to make a part of Sandy Bay suitable for touring caravans and camper vans.

Sandy Bay was cleared 12 years ago, when regeneration plans were being drawn up.

At the time, a sprawling site on Sandy Bay was home to touring caravans, camper vans, and also static caravans.

Faced with spending cash on refurbishing services on the site, BCBC opted instead to clear it, and the land was allocated for housing under regeneration plans.

At the time, the BCBC's director of education, leisure and amenities, the late David Matthews, told The GEM that BCBC should not be in the business of running a commercial operation such as a camp site.

Presumably, BCBC then rejected the idea of asking a commercial company to run it for them, opting instead to clear the site.

Now, Porthcawl SHOUT has put forward a "discussion document" asking BCBC to acknowledge that regeneration is in limbo, and to welcome back camper vans and caravans.

Gary Victor of SHOUT explained the proposal. He said: "BCBC decided to close the Sandy Bay Touring Caravan Park in Porthcawl 12 years ago and the resulting loss of revenue was a financial disaster for the business community on New Road and the east side of Porthcawl.

"Sandy Bay quickly degenerated into the wilderness it is today, and Porthcawl residents are concerned that it could remain in this state for a further 12 years – or even longer!"

The existing Porthcawl regeneration plan is, inevitably, dependent on market conditions, and Mr Victor fears that there is a risk that it might not go ahead within the present 20-year owners' agreement period, and that the Sandy Bay area could deteriorate further.

He said: "To avoid this situation, BCBC could consider a temporary development project to re-open it as a touring and camper van park – as it was for over 37 years."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)

MERLIN WORKS HIS BAKING MAGIC ON OLYMPIC RINGS!

Merlin Maddock, of Blaengarw, baked these Welsh cakes, in the shape of the Olympic rings. Merlin told The GEM that he was supporting Welsh athlete Dai Greene in the 400m hurdles. Photograph by GLYN EVANS.

JOBLESS FIGURES TELL A STORY

GOVERNMENT figures can at best be confusing and contradictory. Take recent unemployment figures.

You may have read that unemployment had increased by 6,100 between May and June to 1.6 million claimants over the age of 18.

You may also have read that in the same period there were 2.58 million people unemployed. Which is the truth?

The answer is both. The first set of figures are for people claiming Job Seeker's Allowance or JSA, and the second are based on International Labour Organisation (ILO) figures, which includes those who may be seeking work but not claiming, or eligible for, benefits.

If you dig beneath both sets of figures they show you the trends. Both the JSA and the ILO show the number of men over 25 who are unemployed as declining this quarter which, with the Olympic Games and the main tourist season, is to be expected.

Male unemployment may have fallen by 34,000 over the last quarter, but it rose by 54,000 over the last year, reaching 1.48 million in March-May 2012.

What is more worrying is the increase in unemployment of women, young people and those unemployed for more than two years. Interestingly, the number of people over the age of 65 now in employment has risen to 929,000, the highest since 1992.

Nationally, unemployment is at eight per cent, but it is 10.9 per cent in the north east, 9.7 per cent in Yorkshire and Humberside, 9.5 per cent in the north west, while we in Wales come in as the fourth highest region with nine per cent.

Compare this with the 5.9 per cent in the south west and the 6.3 per cent in the south east and you begin to get a picture of how divided the country is by unemployment.

Looking at the constituencies with the highest JSA claimants; of the top 15, 11 are Labour constituencies. When looking at the 15 lowest claims, all are either Liberal Democrat or Conservative seats. The top two lowest JSA claims are in Scottish constituencies alongside the gas and oil fields off Aberdeen.

Birmingham Ladywood had 6,799 in June 2007, it now has 9,033. Gordon in Scotland had 311 compared to 569 now. How you see the crisis, depends how close to the problem you are.

Locally, the figures are a little mixed. Ogmore constituency, which includes parts of Rhondda Cynon Taff, is 216th in the UK out of 650, and 17th out of 40 in Wales. The Bridgend constituency is 258th in the UK and 20th in Wales.

The more depressing figures are from Children in Wales, where their survey of parents with disabled children found that 82 per cent of families have gone without something because of a lack of money.

Most worrying of all were the figures showing that 29 per cent have taken out a loan, 27 per cent from a payday, quick cash or loan shark. The loans were not for luxuries but for basics such as food, heating, specialist equipment/adaptations and days out.

WESTMINSTER NOTEBOOK

Bridgend MP MADELEINE MOON writes an exclusive column from Westminster for The GEM.

It is these families who are being left behind and forgotten about as we read media coverage about benefits cheats. Most people on benefits are struggling to survive, and when faced with the extra cost of disability, especially a disabled child, then it is next to impossible.

The current recession has influenced public attitudes towards unemployment, disability and benefits claimants. The House of Commons Library has published a small booklet called Olympic Britain. This compares social and economic changes since the 1908 and the 1948 Olympic Games to now.

In 1910, marriage was the critical determinant as to whether a woman was working, with only 10 per cent of married women in work, a figure that hardly moved by 1931, yet by 1971 it was 40 per cent.

In contrast, the rate of male employment in 1921 was 90 per cent, where as today it is 67 per cent. The change is due to longer periods spent in education and earlier retirement.

Older men stayed in work because of financial hardship and it is interesting to see old age working starting to return.

The section dealing with income and poverty shows that south Wales had high numbers of children who were paupers in 1906, while in 2009 high numbers of children were in poverty.

The 1909 Royal Commission on the Poor Law showed it was interpreted differently across the country. In one area, a widow with a child would only have relief if she went into the work house; in another she would have nothing for herself and 6p and two loaves per week for the child.

In another area, she would only have help if she gave the child up and sent it to a Poor Law School.

Many years ago as a social worker, I visited a lady in her 80s with learning disabilities. I had her social services department file, which dated back to the days of the Poor Law.

It detailed her parent's application for 'outdoor parish relief'. Help was refused, as members of the household were deemed to own too many undergarments.

The Commons Library booklet reveals that today, three out of five families receive state support and the rules are the same across the country. The most common forms of benefit received are child benefit and retirement pension.

Next year will see a new form of inequality. A single parent who earns over £50,000 will start to lose the benefit, while a couple earning £49,000 each will keep it.

GHOSTLY TALES with *HAYLEY WILLIAMS...*

OLD LLANDOW AIRFIELD HOSTS MANY HAUNTINGS!

THE hamlet of Llandow (Llandw/Llan-Dwy in Welsh) lies four miles west of Cowbridge through tranquil country lanes – the proud, and current, host of the Eisteddfod on the old airfield.

In the past, a large extent of Llandow fell into the hands of estates owned by distinguished families from the surrounding locality, such as Dunraven, Carne, and Franklen. Many streams flowed through the vicinity, winding into the River Alun, but most are thought to have become victim to liassic limestone which gobbled up their existence.

The ancient Grade II listed Church of Holy Trinity is held by Llysworney, and believed to have its origins from the Normans between the 12th and 13th centuries. Its eye-catching porchway holds the mysterious effigy of a 14th century lady, although it is unclear who she was when she lived.

The church is small in size with a parsonage house dating back to similar times of construction. It is enhanced with a saddleback tower, which is thought to have been a lookout against the threat of invasion.

The church farmhouse, or the Glebe, is also a listed structure with a medieval thatched roof from the 16th century.

Llandow's other medieval asset is the well, or Ffynnon and Drindad, the well of the Trinity.

Further interesting buildings that feature in this sleepy village include Ty Teilo, which is a diocesan retreat house, that was at one time a stable block for a Georgian Rectory, and now holds a chapel, meeting room and luscious gardens.

The Great House (which has attached flanking ranges) can also be identified as Ty Draw, which is Grade II listed. Built in the 17th century, with Tudor arched doorways, a large fireplace and stone stairs, it was once the central point of the community. Its three-tier barn was added during the 18th century.

The enigmatic castle ringwork lies on slightly elevated ground to the south/southwest of the church, where the knight's fee was held by William of Winchester in 1262. It is classed with monumental importance, although there seems to be no evidence of any kind of ancient building work in the area, so mystery surrounds its existence.

Another principal landmark of Llandow lies adjacent to the village in the form of the now-abandoned WWII RAF station and airfield, which opened in 1940 for service during the war years.

The base had a reception, storage and despatch unit for RAF aircraft, as well as other wartime hangars, including unit B flight with warplanes such as Vampire fighters and Spitfires. The airbase was closed in 1957.

A horrific air disaster occurred on March 12 1950, sending the whole community into mourning. An Avro Tudor V airliner crashed on approach to the runway returning from an international rugby match in Dublin, killing 80 rugby supporters and five crew. Only three passengers survived the tragedy.

In the lonely lanes leading to the village the lifelike figure of a forlorn lady wearing a white robe has been seen wandering through the area as if in search of something mysterious, before vanishing through the hedgerow. Who could this phantom lady be, and why does she seem so desperate to locate something from a world now beyond her grasp?

The eerie image of a young girl limping as if injured haunts the lane too. This frightful manifestation then disappears in a flash. Why would a ghostly child want to recreate an action that caused her distress in a life past our understanding?

Precisely on the first Monday in August, the piercing sound of cries and screams can be heard bellowing out across the land. Could these pitiful noises be from a man who was torn to pieces by hell hounds on this day many years ago, or just a mass figment of imagination?

The redundant airfield seems to be no stranger to ghostly activity. The haunting vision of vapourous red flashing lights have been seen in the distance, coupled with the silhouette of a Second World War pilot, silently walking across the old airfield only to fade away in a white mist. Why would such a courageous serviceman want to return to an area immersed with sadness from that harrowing time of conflict?

Fact or fiction? Only you can decide...

hayley.williams550@yahoo.com

Green award for BCBC

ABOVE (left to right): Viv Hughes from ACD Recycling and Skip Hire (category sponsor), Coun Phil White, BCBC cabinet member for communities, Bridge FM's Lee Jukes, and Chris Howell, BCBC head of Streetscene.

THE recycling team at Bridgend County Borough Council won the prestigious Green Award at the 106.3 Bridge FM Local Hero Awards 2012 in the Heronston Hotel.

It was awarded after the authority moved from being the second worst council in Wales for recycling to one of the best in just two years.

News that council and partners May Gurney achieved the statutory recycling target for 2012/13 a whole year early, sealed the deal.

Bridge FM's Craig Thomas said: "The amount of hard work put in by BCBC across the county borough in recent years to improve the kerbside recycling collections, while raising awareness and educating people to use the new system correctly, has been nothing short of astonishing!"

Coun Phil White, cabinet member for communities and the council's environment champion, collected the award on the night, and commented: "We think this is particularly special because Bridge FM's Local Hero Awards only go to the teams and individuals who are really making a difference in this county borough."

Cliff's a winner at the Coity WI

THE July meeting at Coity opened with a welcome to speaker Jan Price, who entertained us with an exuberant presentation of her own humorous poetry.

Her joie de vivre was contagious and Jan will be enthusiastically recommended to our friends in other WIs.

Members have been very busy in recent months preparing for the Glamorgan Show, which was held in North Cornelly Community Centre at the end of July. We are very pleased with the results of our efforts.

Our treasurer, Jean Rees, was awarded second place in 'The Village Church – class 7 – stained glass window' which Jean created in beautifully-worked cross-stitch.

Also successful was Jean's granddaughter, 11-year-old Megan Fairchild, of Brackla, who had a highly commended award for her story entitled 'The Jubilee'.

Two more highly commended certificates were won by Coity. These were for the cooperative entry of a basket of fruits, herbs and a jar of fruit jam, and for the men's class, which was awarded to Cliff Evans for his pie.

We were also delighted with the very good marks gained by Hilary John for her lovely flower arrangement, displayed as part of a cooperative.

There will be no meeting during August, so our next meeting at Coity Church Hall will be on September 26 at 7.30pm, when the speaker will be Mrs Claire Revera, who will be introducing us to willow making.

New members and visitors are welcome.

ES

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL AUGUST 16)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
09 Thur	11.36	8.2	23.54	8.1
10 Fri			12.19	7.7
11 Sat	00.52	7.6	13.25	7.4
12 Sun	02.11	7.3	14.58	7.3
13 Mon	03.44	7.2	16.13	7.5
14 Tues	04.47	7.6	17.15	8.1
15 Wed	05.41	8.2	17.54	8.7
16 Thur	06.22	8.8	18.39	9.2

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

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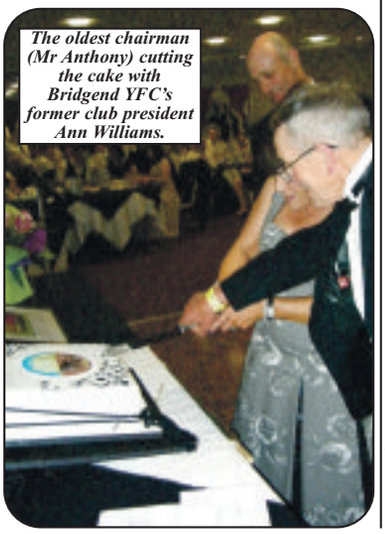
A very successful year for Bridgend YFC

The top table at the 70th anniversary dinner and dance, including club president Jeff Howells, club chairwoman Christina Jones and harpist Gwenllian Price.

Beth Granville competing in the floral competition.

Jacob Anthony and William Smith competed in the wood work competition.



The oldest chairman (Mr Anthony) cutting the cake with Bridgend YFC's former club president Ann Williams.

RALLY day this year was held on Saturday, May 12, at Pencoed College, with Bridgend YFC doing well on the day, winning numerous competitions from cookery, stationary, club display, club sign and girls' car maintenance.

It was the first time for many of our members to compete and everyone did well.

On the day, Bridgend YFC won the John Thomas Cup for the best recruitment for the year within the county of Glamorgan, The JL Hughes Cup for the best club display, the Ivor B Thomas Cup for rally runners-up, and also the county shield for overall winners within Glamorgan YFC.

On May 26, Bridgend YFC celebrated 70 years at their 70th anniversary dinner and dance, held at The Liberty Stadium, Swansea.

More than 400 guests attended the event, enjoying entertainment from harpist Gwenllian Price, guest speaker William Pritchard (a dairy farmer from Pembrokeshire), and live band 'Soul'd Out', made up of young farmers from Gwent YFC.

A very big thank you goes to the club president Jeffery Howells, club chairman Christina Jones and the members of the advisory committee, who without which this special occasion would not have been possible.

A special thank you also goes to former club president Ann Williams for contributing such a lovely celebration cake to mark this milestone.

Numerous members also went on to compete in the Royal Welsh Show in Builth Wells from July 23-26, taking part in the numerous competitions from wedding stationary, club display, cookery and tug of war.

All members competed well and did Bridgend YFC proud!

We would also like to congratulate past members Hywel and Becky Evans on the birth of their daughter, Elena Megan.

On behalf of the club, I would like to thank our chairwoman for the year, Miss Christina Jones, for all her hard work.

BE

Scope's Lynda wished well for her retirement

BRIDGEND MP Madeleine Moon was invited to Scope in Kenfig Hill to join a surprise farewell retirement party for Lynda Francis, the manager at the Rees Centre.

The local MP commented: "I have attended many events at Scope over the years from their Christmas parties to their summer fetes, and last month I attended their 10th birthday celebrations.

"This time it was an invitation to a farewell party for the centre manager Lynda, who has been working for Scope Cymru at the Rees Centre for 10 years.

"I first met her many years ago when visiting Scope and joined in with everyone to wish her well for her retirement.

"I also had a cheque for Scope, from one of my many completed parliamentary questionnaires, for help towards their fundraising events for the centre. Scope offers support to local disabled people of all ages and their families."

For more information, contact Scope Cymru, 4 Ty Nant Court, Morganstown, Cardiff, CF15 8LW. Telephone number: 029 20815450.

Bridgend MP Madeleine Moon presents retiring Bridgend Scope centre manager Lynda Francis with a cheque.

CYNFFIG ARTIST SCOOPS ROYAL WELSH SHOW PRIZE

Pupil James Briggs of Cynffig Comprehensive School is pictured receiving his prize from WPD's Phil Davies and the Lady Ambassador, Eleri Evans, at the Royal Welsh Show.

AN artistic pupil from Cynffig Comprehensive School scooped a prize at this year's Royal Welsh Agricultural Society's annual Children's Art and Design Competition.

James Briggs (13) won third prize in the age category 12-14 years. He received a cash prize of £15 and a goodie bag.

Sponsored by Western Power Distribution (WPD), the competition attracted more than 600 young artists from more than 28 schools from across Wales. Pupils were invited to use their skill and imagination to design a painting or drawing, illustrating the impact the festive season has on farming life.

Phil Davies, WPD's network services manager for Wales, who presented the youngster with his prize, said: "The overall standard of entries were excellent. We have been sponsoring this competition now for more than 10 years and each year the youngsters manage to delight us with their creative ideas."

Prize-winning posters were on display at the Western Power Distribution stand during the show.

'Five-star rating' for school

THE design for Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen's new 'gateway to the valleys' school has received a five-star 'Outstanding' rating from sustainable building specialists BREEAM.

The new school, being constructed in Tondu, will eventually replace the buildings of the former Ogmore and Ynysawdre comprehensives.

The innovative learning environment for 1,570 pupils aged between 11 and 18 will also give residents access to a wide range of new resources.

On schedule to open in 2013, the new school will serve children from the Ogmore and Garw valleys, plus the valleys gateway areas of Bridgend county borough.

Coun Huw David, cabinet member for children and young people, said: "This is fantastic news and marks another success for our ongoing school modernisation programme, which is delivering first-class educational facilities for children throughout the county borough."

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The story of Bridgend's 'Real Local Heroes'

LEFT: Ryan Woodbridge, Lexi Hailstone, Natasha Martin, Dale Hailstone and Lee Jukes.

RIGHT: Liz Pearce, Lee Jukes, Cathy Fletcher and Gemma Jones.

BELOW: Lee Jukes, Lillie-Eve Cronin and Rob Howells.

Photos by: ANDY CAM PHOTOGRAPHY

ON July 27, as reported in The GEM last week, the Heronston Hotel played host to the Bridge FM Local Hero Awards.

With the winners listed next to their awards in last week's edition, The GEM takes a closer look at some of the stories behind them.

The winner of the 'Outstanding Contribution to the Community' award was **Les Jones**. Les has dedicated his time to improving the lives of children and young people in Maesteg.

Since retiring last year, he has worked tirelessly on the campaign to re-open the Courthouse, Maesteg's main youth project – a key aid in helping young people in the area, many of whom are from disadvantaged backgrounds, as well as being a trustee of many local charities, including Y Bont in Bridgend, and supports them to secure vital funding to carry on their good work.

The winner of the 'Child of Courage' award was **Lexi Hailstone** – a little girl who, despite being only four years old, has been through an enormous struggle just to be alive today.

Born with a rare chromosome disorder that has meant that she has spent most of her young life in and out of hospital, battling life threatening seizures and even spending 10 days on life support, Lexi also has to contend with severe hearing loss and partial sight.

She needs support 24 hours a day, and it was widely accepted that she would never be able to walk, talk, smile, sit upright or even display any emotion.

Despite this, she's already defied the odds on two of these, sitting up and smiling, and she's working hard to tick the rest off too.

A spokesperson told The GEM: "£575 was raised on the night to go towards physiotherapy for Lexi in London to help her to walk."

The winner of the 'Adult Achiever' award was **Sammy-Jo Atkins**, who left school at 15 with no qualifications, little confidence and little hope of establishing a career.

But, the birth of her daughter five years ago changed all this. She has since made every effort to make sure that her daughter learns by example by enrolling in most of the courses that the 'Bridges into Work' and council schemes offer.

She found an interest in social work, and is working to make this her career, enrolling on a humanities degree, sign language course and health and social course.

The winner of the 'Young Achiever' award was five-year-old **Lillie Eve Cronin**, who dedicates her time outside of school to charity work, raising money for autism charities because her little brother, three-year-old Archie, suffers from the disorder.

She spends her time coming up with creative ways to raise funds, and to date she's completed a sponsored walk, as well as raising £500 for the charity Autism Puzzles. She's lined up her next challenge too, a sponsored cycle which she's doing next month.

The winner of the 'Gold Award' was **Bettws Primary School**, which had caught on fire, but the swift action of staff at the school had ensured the safe evacuation of all the pupils, despite the severity of the fire.

Jan Brady's 'Outstanding Contribution to Animal Welfare' has seen her, for the last 15 years, run the rescue cattery for Maesteg Animal Welfare from her own home.

She gives all her time on a voluntary basis, and as well as rescuing and taking care of the cats, she has also helped to find loving homes for hundreds.

The 'Green Award' went to **Bridgend Country Recycling Service**, who in the space of two years helped guide Bridgend from the second worst local authority for recycling in Wales, to exceeding the county borough's recycling target for 2012/13 a year early!

From getting schools on board with the 'Recycling Ranger' roadshow, to carefully crafting a campaign that would reach the nearly 60,000 households in the county, the team managed to succeed in helping to educate the people of Bridgend on the ways that they could become greener.

Helen Morgan, winner of the 'Carer of the Year' award, has cared for her son Aaron for the last 17 years. Aaron can't talk, see, or walk, and needs 24-hour attention.

Helen has provided this, both in her role at Heronsbridge School and as an extra curricular carer.

'Mum of the Year' **Sian Evans** was pregnant with her first child when she received the devastating news that she had breast cancer.

As a result of this, she had to endure an emergency C section to deliver her baby girl three weeks early, and then shortly after being allowed to bond with her beautiful baby Katie, had to endure further surgery to remove the cancer.

A gruelling course of chemotherapy and radiotherapy followed, yet despite the harrowing effects of this, her only concern was for the wellbeing of her daughter.

Katie turned one back in March, and around the same time, Sian received her all clear.

Hannah Jarrett received the 'Contribution to Charity' award. Although only young, she suffers from type one diabetes. Despite this, she's extremely active and is currently studying hard for her GCSEs.

She's used her active nature as a catalyst to raise money for a charity close to her heart, the Junior Diabetic Association. Hannah's organised and taken part in sponsored zip wire sessions and charity walks, as well as arranging quizzes and other events to help support her chosen charity.

Clive Holmes earned the 'Outstanding Contribution to Sport' award as he has played more than 1,000 games for Tondu Cricket Club.

He still turns out every Saturday, usually as captain of the second team, but this season, at the tender age of 60, he has forced his way back into the first team.

The 'Outstanding Bravery Award' went to four boys – **Lloyd Griffiths**, **Scott Govan**, **Ollie Lewis** and **Rory Thomas** – of Bridgend Athletic rugby's youth team.

The four boys were on Newbridge fields putting in some extra practice when their friend Lewis suffered a serious epileptic fit and stopped breathing.

Despite being just 17, and this being the first time they'd ever seen their friend in this condition, they acted swiftly, put him in the recovery position, called an ambulance, and rushed to get help, managing to get hold of a rugby coach and off duty policeman, who were able to begin chest compressions at a critical time where Lewis' heart had stopped.

Their swift action almost certainly saved their friends' life.

The 'Dad of the Year' award went to **Kevin Meredith**.

Church hosts life-saving defibrillator

The Rev Anthony Beer about to place the defibrillator in its case while Gerard Rothwell of the Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust looks on.

by TIM CHAPMAN

ST JAMES' CHURCH in Wick is the first place of worship in Wales to host a defibrillator in the hope that it will save local lives.

A defibrillator gives the victims of heart attacks an electric shock in a bid to revive them.

The Rev Anthony Beer of St James' Church explained that with Wick being in an isolated area of the western Vale, having the life saving device made good sense.

"We are a further four miles on than Llantwit Major and in an emergency time that can be critical.

"The defibrillator will be located inside the porch and accessible 24 hours a day.

"It is a brilliant piece of equipment and a voice talks people through the procedure.

"It is a marvellous, practical way of helping the whole of the local community."

The defibrillator even assesses the patient prior to it activating and if the heart is beating it can inform the user that it is not required.

Churches are well known landmarks in rural communities and another 10 to 12 defibrilators are expected to be located inside churches in rural Welsh communities later this year.

The Welsh Ambulance Service trains volunteers across Wales in the use of defibrilators, and the people of Wick are keen to take part in training sessions.

There are already defibrilators in Llantwit Major, Cowbridge and St Athan.

NEWS FROM THE PORTHCAWL PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

AT the July meeting of the Porthcawl Parkinson Support Group (PPSG), Mrs Bernice Tucker (see photograph above) modelled one of the garments collected by Mrs Nina Charlesworth.

Mrs Charlesworth has several garments collected from different countries she has visited over the years. This Egyptian gown had been bought to wear at a fancy dress party in Cairo.

Other garments on display at the meeting had come from countries as far away as Mexico, India, Nepal, China and Tibet. All these fine costumes were discussed and appreciated by the group members.

The next meeting of the PPSG is at 10.30am, Friday, August 31, at the Unitarian Church school room, Nottage. All are welcome.

For further information, contact 01656 783071.

NC

Youth theatre juniors tackle a musical version of Hans Christian Andersen's timeless classic

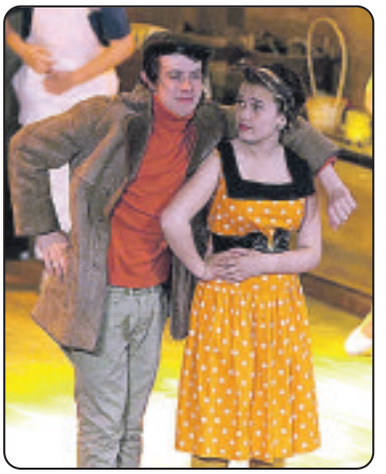
PHOTOGRAPHS by MALCOLM NUGENT

THE junior section of the Bridgend Youth Theatre recently performed the musical *Honk* at the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl.

The show is an adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's classic children's fable, *The Ugly Duckling*, written by the British songwriting duo of Anthony Drewe and George Stiles.

Adults of a certain age ought to be aware that it doesn't include the Tommy Steele classic 'The Ugly Duckling'.

GEM photographer Malcolm Nugent dropped by during rehearsals to take these photographs of the young cast, hard at work.



FOODBANK FOR FAMILIES IN NEED GETS £600 BOOST

President of Bridgend Rotary, Rev Mike Lewis, together with Rotarian colleagues, Coun Jeff Tildesley MBE, with volunteers from Bridgend Foodbank and Nikki Elward, community champion, Tesco Extra Bridgend, delivering food to the Foodbank.

THE Rotary Club of Bridgend has donated £500 worth of food to Bridgend Foodbank, topped up by an extra £100 from Tesco Extra Bridgend.

The goods, all of which had a long 'shelf life' included tinned meats, tinned vegetables, sugar, cereals, rice and biscuits and many others. They were delivered on Friday, July 27, by Nikki Elward, community champion at Bridgend Tesco Extra, the president of Rotary, Rev Mike Lewis, and several Rotarian colleagues. Volunteers from the Foodbank were on hand to help her unload the food.

Coun Jeff Tildesley MBE, a trustee of the Bridgend Foodbank, said: "We are extremely grateful for this very generous donation from Bridgend Rotary Club, supported by Tesco, to help feed families in crisis."

Bridgend Foodbank is part of a network of more than 150 foodbanks, started by the Trussel Trust in 1999.

It opened its doors at the beginning of December 2009. Food donated by the community is banked and can be drawn upon by people in crisis situations.

Individuals, couples and families are provided with three days of food to see them through the period between crisis and provision of support and intervention by the appropriate agencies.

Rev Mike Lewis commented: "Our club is committed to supporting charitable organisations in our community and we are delighted that we could support this very worthy cause."

For more information about The Rotary Club of Bridgend, visit: www.rotarybridgend.org.uk.

RAF Henlow welcomes cadets from Kenfig Hill

FOUR cadets from 2117 (Kenfig Hill) ATC recently attended summer camp at RAF Henlow in Bedfordshire, along with other cadets from No3 Welsh Wing.

Cadet Corporal Aston, Cadet Peckham, Cadet Sadd and Cadet Evans provided support and accommodation for its numerous lodger units, which consist of RAF Centre for Aviation Medicine, the Joint Arms Control Implementation Group and the Provost Marshall with his Tactical Provost Wing and No1 Specialist Police Wing.

During the week, the cadets had an opportunity to go flying and they also took part in initiative and field craft exercises. There was also time allocated for leisure activities, and an opportunity to visit the RAF Museum at Duxford, which is part of the Imperial War Museum.

The cadets enjoyed the week and made lots of new friends and contacts from within the wing.

The camp commandant for the week was Sqn Ldr Mike Lovering RAF VR(T) – his last camp before retiring.

If you are at least 13 years old, why not join 2117 (Kenfig Hill) Squadron ATC. We are also looking for adult staff members and Civilian Committee members.

Cadets parade on Tuesdays and Fridays from 7pm–9.30pm.

For more information, call the Squadron on parade nights: 01656 670125.

Lindsay Thomas
Secretary Civilian Committee

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Helen misses out on a medal...

But that can't ruin BAC's big day out in the capital

by LEIGH GRUFFYDD SANDERS

THE whole of Britain was disappointed when Helen Jenkins missed out on a medal in the triathlon at the London Olympics last Saturday, but one group in particular can look back with nothing but pride on the day.

Helen has been a long-time member of Bridgend Athletic Club, so a large contingent of members and organisers made the journey down to London to cheer their girl on.

Treasurer Jon Embling was one of those to make the journey, and he described the day to The GEM as a "fantastic" day out: "Steve and Jackie Brace were with us, as was the chairman, Alan Kerr, and we got in to Hyde Park and managed to get tickets alongside the finish line.

"In the 10k run it was looking good for Helen and we thought it was going to be San Diego all over again (when she won the World Triathlon Series event in May), but unfortunately it was not to be.

"As we all now know, she had been struggling with injury beforehand, and over the final kilometre fighting the pain was proving difficult. Her injury problems were pushed to the limit.

"I've known Helen for a long time so it took a while to get used to. It was hard for some of us, but obviously harder for her."

Jon was in London for three days and couldn't believe how big the atmosphere and crowd participation was for all the events he witnessed, not just Helen's fight for triathlon gold on Saturday.

He added: "Overall, I thought it was a great balance of sport and commerce coming together. It was an unbelievable experience.

"I can't try to impress upon people enough the roar of the crowd. People got behind athletes of all countries, it was fantastic to be part of one continual party.

"The only thing I can really think to compare it to is the Millennium Stadium with Wales taking the Grand Slam!"

Jon also spoke of the atmosphere in the city surrounding Saturday night's triple gold heroics of Jessica Ennis, Greg Rutherford and Mo Farah.

"What a moment, fantastic! We'll never see it again. Those 20 minutes delivered sporting success at the highest level.

"The fact we're third in the medal table speaks volumes about our progression. Nobody expected it to be as great as it is, and the mouth watering prospect is that it could get even better."

He also added that the most important aspect of the Olympics could be the legacy it leaves with athletes inspiring children in their areas.

"In 2008, Helen became the triathlon world champion, and we have been able to mark her success with the rise in recruitment in the borough.

"There has been a steady increase of youngsters coming in to sport, largely female, which shows her status as a female role model.

"It used to be that Helen would be hanging off the back of the senior group at Bridgend, now we hang off the back of Helen Jenkins!"

And one final thought on Helen's big day: "It was the most memorable day...apart from my wedding of course!"

RIDING GROUP'S CHARITY DOG SHOW

THE Bridgend County Riding for the Disabled group will be holding its annual dog show on Sunday, August 19, in Pencoed College, to raise funds.

It starts at 11am and should finish by 2pm. Refreshments will be available, including a cake stall.

Classes will include: best dog and bitch; fancy dress; dog the judge would most like to take home; dog with the waggiest tail; dog that looks most like its owner; dog agility – and the ever-popular doggy dash! (a speed event).

Entry fees are £1 per class. There is no charge to come along to watch, but a donation will be welcome.

If dry, the show will be held near the main car park. If wet, it will be in one of the indoor riding schools.

A spokeswoman said: "The Bridgend County Riding for the Disabled group teaches children with disabilities to ride. The children benefit greatly from this activity and gains include increased confidence, concentration, balance and communication skills.

"They also have a lot of fun. We are based at Pencoed College. We do not charge for our lessons and receive no grants or funding, so we spend some of our time raising money to keep our two horses at the college and pay for running expenses."

Liz Worthington

Local CAB hails success of advice scheme for finance

BRIDGEND County Borough Citizens Advice scheme offering free advice from an independent financial advisor has now meant that the local community has benefited by more than £200,000.

ABOVE: Financial advisor Simon Haydock and Kate Henson of Citizens Advice.

The scheme was part of a pilot to allow local citizens to seek independent financial advice at no cost.

A spokeswoman said: CAB and the Personal Finance Society originally set the scheme up for a two-year period and, due to both the past success and need for such a service in Bridgend, it is now celebrating its fifth anniversary.

"The service offers advice to clients on the topics including pensions, investments, miss-selling of financial services, mortgages and many other aspects that a highly qualified IFA can offer."

When the project was set up, Simon Haydock was the only IFA in Wales to sign up. "I always like helping out others and I had looked into volunteering at CAB. This was the opportunity to be able to do so.

"Since then we have had some amazing successes, which range from, compensation for financial miss-selling, to getting extra income for life while explaining options of pensions and investments to clients."

Chief officer Kate Henson said: "It is a privilege to be one of the very few bureaux to offer the services of an experienced IFA like Simon. We are pleased to offer it to all our clients across the county borough."

Anyone seeking advice and support on a range of subjects including debt, welfare benefits, employment, housing and consumer issues from Bridgend County Borough Citizens Advice can call in to Maesteg Council Offices, Talbot Street, Maesteg. Monday 10am-2pm and Wednesday-Friday 10am-2pm; or at 26 Dunraven Place, Bridgend Monday-Friday 10am-12.30pm.

Adviceline (a bi-lingual telephone advice service) can also be contacted on 08444 77 20 20. Bridgend County Borough Citizens Advice Bureau offers free, confidential, impartial and independent advice.

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YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS

Thank you

MRS Sylvia Wheeler of Nantymoel would like to thank family, friends and neighbours who have done so much to give her support after the recent loss of her husband.

Sylvia is a member of the Ogmore Valley Ladies Choir and Society which does so much to raise money for charity.

The choir rehearses at Ogmore Vale Welfare Hall on Monday evenings from 6.30pm, and visitors are most welcome.

Anniversaries

MANY congratulations to David and Carol Anderson who recently celebrated their golden wedding anniversary, and David and Shirley Pope, who celebrated their ruby wedding anniversary.

I wish both couples good health and hope they have many more years of being together.

Country show

THE Glynogwr show is being held at Lakeside farm, Gilfach Goch on Saturday August 11 beginning at 9.30am.

It is a real country event with a Gymkhana, show jumping and a horse, terriers and sheep show, also horticultural classes. There will be a number of stalls selling homemade produce.

Concert

A CHARITY concert is being held in St John's Church, Aberkenfig, on Friday, September 14, with the local male voice choir Bois Goetre-Hen a'r Cylch.

Tickets (£5) can be purchased from Kay or Maureen on 01656 767135 or 01656 723512.

New service

VISITORS to the customer service centre at the civic offices in Angel Street who are deaf or hard of hearing can now immediately access a British Sign Language (BSL) interpreter.

By using the 'my friend' service, the customer and the interpreter will be able to see each other via a webcam on a dedicated laptop.

The council has also introduced the BT text relay service which enables deaf and hard of hearing customers who use a text phone to contact any member of staff by dialing 18001 and the area code before any council phone number.

Local talent

THIRTEEN young people from Bridgend county borough have been invited to join groups from National Youth Arts Wales.

Well done to successful applicants: Daniel Pugh Bevan, Anwen Dixon, Sara Friel, Peter Greenwood, Kamila Godzinska, Rhydian Jenkins, Will Mead, Hefin Miles, Lucy Noden, Constance Osgood, Gareth Rodgers, Isabelle Rosenberg and Hanna Thomas.

Three applied for the National Youth Orchestra of Wales, one joined the National Youth Theatre of Wales and the remaining nine have joined the National Youth Brass Bank Wales, National Youth Choir of Wales, National Youth Dance Wales, National Youth Jazz Wales and the National Wind Orchestra of Wales.

Penyfai WI

JEAN GRIFFITHS, the president, welcomed the members and proposed birthday greetings to members whose birthdays were in July or August.

The meeting was in the form of a street party with tables being laid out, and each member bringing a plate of delicacies.

The speaker for the evening, Hannah Jarrett, was introduced by Jean. Hannah is a yype 1 diabetes sufferer, who had been selected as one of the Olympic torchbearers for her work on raising people's awareness and raising money for this disease. Type 1 diabetes is caused by a lack of insulin output because of auto-immune damage to the pancreas gland.

Hannah had brought the torch without the gas bottle, and all the members were impressed with the workmanship that went into the manufacture of the torch. The mesh comprised of 8,000 diamond shapes, one for each bearer of the torch.

Jean Griffiths reminded members that the WI will again be filling shoe boxes for the charity 'Operation Christmas Child' and hopes they will beat last year's record donation.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, September 17 in Penyfai Primary School hall at 7pm.

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL
1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ
TEL: 01656 725399
email: tynycoed1@yahoo.co.uk

Tondu Primary School

MRS Susan Pilcher, the headteacher, would like to congratulate the following pupils who achieved the distinction of having a 100 per cent attendance record over the whole school year:

Tegan Chambers, Maisie Fahey, Sasha Flower, Bethan Jimson and Loren Taylor.

Pupils who attained a 100 per cent homework record for the summer term are:

Cynffig class: Maddie Allen, Carwyn Barry, Wil Davies, Sophie Featham, Tom Joynson, Macy Mably, Tyler Phillips, Emily Tuck, Ella Williams, Callum Withey, Noah Yates.

Ewenni class: Crystal Bancroft, Sophie Barrett, Noah Barry, Kacey Floyd, Levi Harry, A-Jay Hopson, Evan Humphries, Fabian Tapner, Tamzin Williams, Bobby Zziwa.

Garw class: Cameron Baker, George Barry, Joshua Collier, Jamie Coombs, Seren Dare, Isabelle Evans, Jessica Evans, Sasha Flower, Iestyn Griffiths, Harri Gould, Brook Hawkins, Olivia Herbert, Ieuan Lane, Holly Lewis, Maddie Rose, Max Taylor, Amelia Webb, Olivia Web, Jared Young.

Llynfi class: Rhys Baker, Tegan Chambers, Ben Fisher, Dylan Griffiths, Evie Higgins, Jorga Higgins, Benji Lock, Frazer Marshall, Brook Ockwell, Tia Ockwell, Cleo Tapner.

Ogwr class: Libby Barrett, Amy Brice-Richards, Lola Brown, Morgane Chauvel, Jamie Collins, Leianna-Mai Darks, Ellie Davies, Lauren Davies, Mya Fahey, Iwan Griffiths, Cian Hughes, Eeva Salo.

Rhondda class: Garin Atkinson, Conor Crewe, Siobhan Cundle, Shannon Evans, Dewi Gronow, Jacob Hale, Tom Howells, Joseph Humphries, Brydie Jones, Holly Sayce, Dionne Tapner.

Taf class: Lowri Chambers, Sian Kinsman, Louise Payne, Ben Pritchard-Davies, Cameron Shears, Amy Thomas.

Usk class: Jack Bailey, Morgan-Owen Evans, Rhiannon Haines, Sam Hatt, Sadie Payne, Alex Smith, Loren Taylor, Cian Thacker, Daniel Thomas.

Bridgend boy will travel thanks to his YFC grant

NINE (YFC) members from across Wales benefited financially from this year's Gareth Raw Rees Memorial Travel Scholarship.

The scholarship, which is administered by NFU Cymru, was set up in memory of the late Gareth Raw Rees who, for many years, was a delegate on the NFU London Council and chairman of the NFU Cymru education committee. Gareth believed fervently that travel was an important form of education for young people.

Morgan Williams, a Bridgend YFC member, was the main winner, and he received £800 to help him travel to Scotland and Australia.

Morgan will use the money to help fund a year-long trip with an initial four-month work experience stint at a large animal veterinary practice in Scotland, before heading on to Australia.

Morgan has recently completed his 'A' Level examinations at Porthcawl Comprehensive School and will begin his work experience placement in Scotland at the start of September shortly after receiving his exam results.

Morgan said: "I am really looking forward to learning first-hand about the work of a large animal veterinary practice before moving onto Australia in the New Year. In Australia I hope to gain a new perspective on farming by working on large cattle units and soft fruit farms, and I'm keen to learn new techniques and innovations that I'll be able to bring back to benefit the family farm."

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Rotarians organise a special fun fishing day

RECENTLY a group from Valley Gateway Community Centre, along with students from Pencoed Comprehensive School, were invited to demonstrate their fishing skills at a competition hosted by Bridgend Rotary Club.

Many volunteers were on hand to assist wherever necessary. Each competitor caught three trout and the heaviest catch in each category was awarded a medal.

It was a fun day enjoyed by all.

Rotarian Gillian Hale

For further information about Bridgend Rotary Club please visit our website: www.rotarybridgend.org.uk

REGIONAL AM CONDEMNS MAESTEG PARK THEFTS

REGIONAL AM Suzy Davies has added her voice to the chorus of condemnation arising from thefts at Maesteg Welfare Park.

Police have reported that a picnic table set has been stolen, as well as fruit trees planted in a garden created by the Friends of Maesteg Welfare Park. They had been planted in memory of loved ones.

"Words fail me," said Mrs Davies, who is a Welsh Conservative Regional AM for South Wales West. "I was at the park only a few weeks ago when I met volunteers and inspected the garden and orchard they have created.

"There were plaques on the trees dedicated to the memory of loved ones. Whoever stole the trees knew exactly what they were taking – something planted with love to remember a lost relative.

"I understand that whoever stole the picnic set would have needed a van to take it away, so somebody has carefully planned this raid. It is not mindless vandalism – this is someone stealing from the community in a calculated way.

Mrs Davies met Friends' chairman Diana O'Reilly and treasurer Lynn Harrison Seale – both of whom helped found the group.

They told Suzy that when the Friends were formed two years ago, the park had been taken over at night by gangs of teenagers drinking and running wild.

Since then, the group has been very busy tidying up the park, planting flowers and trees, cleaning up the skateboard area and generally policing the park.

Ms Davies AM was very impressed with what has been achieved. She added: "I just hope that they are not deterred by this setback. They have achieved so much in only two years and I know that they have the determination to move on from this."

The group now has about 200 members and they work closely with the council and police.

LEFT to RIGHT: Lynn Harris Seal, Suzy Davies AM and Diana O'Reilly.

Porthcawl's top trio of beaches get accolade

THREE of Bridgend county borough's beaches have been recognised in the Marine Conservation Society's Good Beach Guide for possessing bathing-water of the highest quality.

Coun Lyn Morgan

Only beaches consistently achieving the highest quality bathing water throughout regular testing make it onto the Marine Conservation Society's recommended list of beaches, with Rest Bay, Sandy Bay and Trecco Bay in Porthcawl all receiving the highest honour.

Coun Lyn Morgan, cabinet member for well-being said: "We are lucky to have a varied choice of lovely beaches in Bridgend county borough and it's great that they are getting the recognition they deserve."

Now in its 25th year, the good beach guide is a comprehensive guide to bathing water quality around the UK. Its aim is to help people to avoid unacceptable levels of risk when paddling or swimming in the sea.

Coun Morgan added: "With the school holidays upon us, our beaches are regularly patrolled by lifeguards to ensure children, families and visitors to our beaches remain safe in and around the water this summer."

If you're planning a visit to the beach, help to keep our beaches unspoilt by ensuring that you take all rubbish with you when you leave.

Police monitor town night life

POLICE and partner agencies in Bridgend are continuing to target pubs and clubs, aiming to ensure visitors to the town have a safe night out.

Visits are being conducted by officers from South Wales Police, the Fire Service, BCBC Licensing Authority and Trading Standards to ensure licence conditions are being adhered to, and to provide a highly visible presence in the town centre.

A police spokeswoman said: "Seven licensed premises were recently visited in Bridgend and a number of minor licensing offences were found.

"Trading Standards also visited two premises in Pencoed to educate licensees on underage alcohol sales and proxy sales. Advice packs were issued, along with leaflets concerning the offences of such sales."

The activity comes as part of the CounterAct traffic light scheme, which sees partnerships promoting a safe approach to alcohol in the borough's pubs and clubs.

Businesses with a green light reflect a well managed venue, whereas a red premises suggests there may be issues of concern. An action plan will be agreed with any licence holder in the red zone.

The spokeswoman said: "It is hoped that CounterAct will help recognise good practice, as well as identify problem areas at an early stage, so that premises can avoid long-term alcohol-related crime issues."

Andrew Leach, watch manager from South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, said: "Fire Safety Officers examined fire precautions at licensed premises in the town and identified areas where improvements could be made.

"It was reassuring to discover that generally the fire safety standards were at a reasonable level and were being effectively maintained.

"With the safety of the public being our greatest concern, these visits prove invaluable in maintaining the safety precautions required in licensed premises".

Sergeant Claire Lamerton, who led the most recent activity, said: "Our operations are aimed at promoting a safe and enjoyable atmosphere for people to be out socialising and enjoying themselves in Bridgend town centre."

Actors allowed to 'light up' in Wales

SHADOW culture minister Suzy Davies AM has welcomed a decision by the Welsh Government to permit actors to smoke in TV and film productions made in Wales.

A number of regular productions are filmed in the Vale and Bridgend areas.

Suzy Davies, who is a Welsh Conservative regional AM for South Wales West, said Wales is already at a disadvantage for such productions because an exemption to the law has already been granted in England.

She said: "I gather that scenes requiring actors to smoke are now being filmed in Bristol and there was a very real danger that some productions would switch to studios over the border unless action was taken.

"Wales has become a highly respected hub for drama productions with programmes like *Casualty, Torchwood, Dr Who, Sherlock* and *Merlin* being made by the BBC in Wales."

PACT meetings

FELINDRE, Hendre and Penprysg (Pencoed) PACT at the Welfare Hall, Heol y Groes on Wednesday, August 29, at 6pm.

NEWCASTLE PACT at the Civic Offices, Angel Street on Wednesday, August 29, at 6.30pm.

JOY AS NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD RETURNS TO THE VALE AFTER A PERIOD OF 44 YEARS

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:
e-mail ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk
telephone 07791 228684.
Visit our studio in the Wool Barn, Verity's Court, Cowbridge.

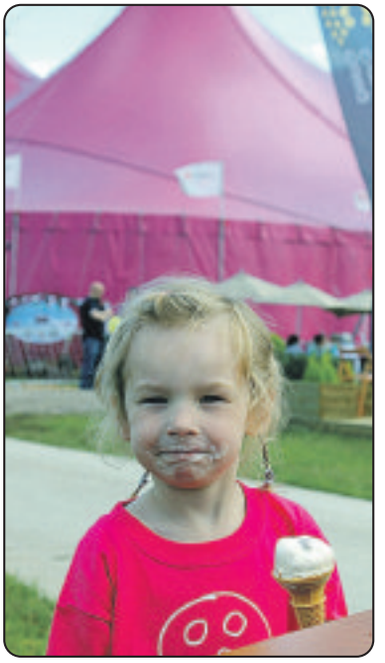
IT has been a long time coming, but at last, after 44 years, people in the Vale of Glamorgan were able to host the National Eisteddfod once again.

The last time it was held in the Vale was when Barry played host to Wales' greatest cultural festival in 1968.

On Saturday, August 4, all roads in Wales led to Llandow as thousands of people made their way to the Eistedfodd site.

Fortunately, apart from one severe downpour, the visitors were able to enjoy a day of good weather as they browsed the numerous attractions.

As Glyn Evans' images demonstrate, youth participation remains a core value of the week's celebration of the Welsh language.



Children's artwork gets the thumbs up.

Children's artwork is ready to go national

LOCAL children's art created as part of the Play 4 Life summer activity programme will be on display in the National Museum, Cardiff in September.

The Play 4 Life art workshops organised by Bridgend County Borough Council's arts and community development team took place this week at Ogmore Valley Life Centre and Porthcawl Primary School.

Children have enjoyed designing and constructing three-dimensional figures based on the work of popular acclaimed author and illustrator Anthony Browne, who combines narrative with pictures in a colourful and imaginative way.

The figures created by the children will be on display at the National Museum in Cardiff during September as part of the 'Through the Magic Mirror: The World of Anthony Browne' exhibition, which brings the picture book artist's unique and exceptional work to life.

Registration for the Play 4 Life scheme this summer has now closed but further workshops due to take place over the next few weeks across the borough will contribute to the work being displayed at the exhibition.

The Play 4 Life scheme provides free sports, play, arts and crafts activities and is supported by local town and community councils.

For more information about other arts workshops and activities that are taking place in Bridgend county borough, contact Guy O'Donnell, arts development officer, at: guy.odonnell@bridgend.gov.uk.

SHOUT want part of Rest Bay for caravans

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Mr Victor continued: "This would create economic and environmental benefits in the East Central ward area of Porthcawl and reproduce an investment revenue stream for BCBC."

He continued: "The reintroduction of a temporary site would enable the council and the police to deal with the continual camper van parking problem that exists in Sandy Lane, Mackworth Road, Eastern Promenade and even Rest Bay.

"Residents living in these areas have complained for years and get annoyed and fractious with people in illegally parked vans with no toilet facilities playing loud music and drinking until the early hours close to their homes.

"If BCBC provided parking facilities, this unacceptable situation would end and also improve the holiday experience of those who have paid for accommodation in this visitor centre of town."

He added that such a development would improve the coastline from Trecco Bay to the fairground area.

He said that the costs for reclaiming, reopening and putting in statutory services could well be born by the developer and the commercial sector – provided BCBC took a "realistic" attitude.

He emphasised: "We feel sure there would be serious local interest to undertake this project."

He said that a maximum period of occupancy of three to four weeks for touring caravans and camper vans, but no static caravans, would allow the site to be reclaimed quickly should that be necessary.

He concluded: "Camper van facilities would improve the town's tourism market and enhance the area in general."

A spokesperson for BCBC said: "We have received Porthcawl SHOUT's document and we are considering the proposal.

"One option could be to explore how this might work as a potential partnership project. We look forward to feeding back to SHOUT in due course."

Ogmore Valley band wows the judges at National Eisteddfod

A LOCAL brass band is celebrating after impressing judges at the National Eisteddfod in Llandow.

Ogmore Valley Silver Band competed in the third section Brass Band Contest at the National Eisteddfod on Saturday, August 4, and came an impressive second place, just behind Mellingriffith 2, from Cardiff, who took first place.

A band spokeswoman said: "This result is a great stepping stone for the band, who will be competing at the Brass Band National Finals in Cheltenham on September 22-23, after qualifying in the area contest at the Brangwyn Hall in Swansea on March 17.

"The last time the band qualified for the national finals was in 2004."

The revival seems to be down to the appointment of Alice Jones from Llantwit Major – only 24 and the band's first woman conductor ever.

The spokeswoman said: "Alice has only been conducting the band for three years, in which time it has gone from strength to strength."

Things are definitely on the up, and there are plans to form a youth band later in the year.

The band members have been busy fundraising over the summer for the trip to the finals, and will be holding a fundraising concert evening on Friday, August 17, at the Non Pol Club in Ogmore Vale, where the band will be performing their summer programme plus some of the pieces played at the Eisteddfod.

For more information about the band, visit: www.ogmoreband.co.uk.

Students' placement

BRIDGEND students have been given the opportunity to take advantage of a unique work placement scheme with Welsh law firm Morgan Cole.

Growing Ambitions gives young people living in accommodation provided by local social housing associations the chance to spend a week with Morgan Cole, gaining vital work experience and learning more about the world of business that will enhance their prospects of employment at a later date.

Sixteen-year-old Katie Lambert of Betws, Bridgend says that the experience has been of great benefit: "I'm studying my A Levels at Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen and doing a course in law at Bridgend College. Having the opportunity to spend a week with solicitors at Morgan Cole has been a fantastic experience enabling me to really think about my future career."

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

Local charity aims to bring latest robot surgery in to Wales

by PHILIP IRWIN

A CHARITY based in Cowbridge is launching a campaign – entitled Operation Robot – to tackle a major inequality between the treatment of prostate cancer in Wales and in England.

Prostate Cymru has grown exponentially since it was launched as 'GLAZE' by Cowbridge resident Ray Murray and urology consultant Andy Thomas, and they believe the inequality can be summed up in one stark statistic: ***England 37 – Wales 0***.

Although it brings to mind a rugby scoreline from Wales' darkest days, the 37–0 statistic really is a matter of life and death for prostate cancer sufferers.

It highlights the fact that the latest state-of-the-art robotic surgery techniques are provided at 37 English hospitals – while Wales has none!

Ray Murray started GLAZE to bring a 'Green Light Laser' machine to Wales. This is a machine that treats benign prostate conditions by using a laser to vaporise excess tissue in the prostate gland.

Operation Robot's mascot, with First Minister Carwyn Jones AM and Ray Murray (right).

Under Andrew Thomas, the team at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, is one of only three Green Light Laser teaching hospitals in Europe.

The other two are The Royal Marsden and Madrid!

However, the success of this has only made the two more determined to tackle the inequality in the treatment of prostate cancer, and they have formed Prostate Cymru to campaign and fundraise to bring an American robot surgery machine – the Da Vinci Robotic Laparoscopic System – to Wales.

Ray Murray told The GEM that the consequence of this 37–0 imbalance was that if a Welsh man wants the robotic surgery, he has to find £15,000 to have the operation done in England (or abroad).

He said: "Every year, hundreds of men in Wales are told they have prostate cancer and, in many cases, they will require surgery.

"Robotic urological surgery is now routine in many countries. Although it doesn't guarantee a better outcome in the long term, it is minimally invasive, and so causes less trauma, requires shorter hospital stays, and there's less risk of complications such as impotence and incontinence.

"If you are a prostate patient in England and want robotic surgery, you are likely to get it on the NHS.

"In Wales, you don't get it at all. Instead, you have to leave Wales and pay £15,000 for private treatment.

"It's grossly unfair. That's why Prostate Cymru has launched Operation Robot."

Andy Thomas told The GEM: "The ironic thing is that Welsh patients are paying money to support the cost of having robot machines in England!"

Mr Ed Rowe is a consultant urological surgeon in Bristol. He said: "The Da Vinci robotic system has transformed the way surgeons can perform complex and precision surgery, while vastly reducing the trauma to the patient's body.

"The impact of the procedure on the patient is so much reduced that the vast majority can go home the day after the operation."

Ray Murray said that a Welsh Da Vinci robot would not be used just for prostate surgery. It would be suitable for other surgery on both women and men.

He said: "Robotically assisted surgery is the future for medical treatments, and Operation Robot needs the support of the public if we are going to bring this surgery to Wales.

"We want as many people as possible to get involved.

"Operation Robot aims to hold fundraising events throughout Wales, and accept donations from well wishers.

For more information, visit: www.operationrobot.com

Remembering Barry Olympic celebrations of yesteryear

THE above picture shows Gladstone Road Secondary Modern School pupils in 1952 celebrating the Helsinki Olympics.

The Downs resident Mac Wilcox (front row, second from right) would like to share this old school photograph of him and his school friends; Jimmy Condick (front row, third left), Osman Fahir, Gareth Motton (to left of Mac), Brian Ankera, Dai Saif (back row, second right) and Gwyn James (second row, fifth right), to name but a few.

He said: "Sorry I can't remember everyone's names but 60 years have passed.

"In this photo we are wearing our Olympic motifs on our school sports team kit, celebrating the 1952 Olympics."

The photograph was taken in the top yard behind the school.

MW

VALE BAND IN GOOD FORM AT EISTEDDFOD

THE Vale of Glamorgan Band, under the leadership of their director of music, Mr David Short, produced a creditable performance to attain third place in section four in the band contest at the National Eisteddfod at Llandow on Saturday.

Mr Short was very pleased with the result, considering some of the band members had never played in a contest before, but they overcame their nerves.

The programme started with the rousing 'Men of Harlech', before a change of tempo and style with the Flugel Horn solo 'Concerto De Aranjuez', played beautifully by Rachel Evans.

Then, to remind everyone of the British summer, the band played 'Singing in the Rain'.

The programme concluded with a Tom Jones favourite: 'Sex Bomb'.

The variety of music was much enjoyed.

David Wade

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Millennium Centre poet takes the Bardic Crown

ABOVE: Gwyneth Lewis is crowned as Bard at this year's Eisteddfod. (PHOTOGRAPH by GLYN EVANS).

THE Bardic Crown at this year's National Eisteddfod has gone to Wales' national poet Gwyneth Lewis for 2005/06.

The crown was presented in a ceremony on the Pavilion stage on Monday, August 6.

This year's competition attracted 32 entries, and 'Y Frân' was awarded the crown for her sequence of poems (not more than 250 lines) on the subject 'Ynys' (Island).

Speaking on behalf of his co-adjudicators, Cyril Jones and Penri Roberts, Cen Williams said, "Y Frân has given careful thought to every word and clause throughout the sequence, and this poet's interpretation of the subject is totally different to everyone else.

"A master of his *(sic)* craft, this poet's sequence has raised the standard of this year's crown competition to an impressive high."

Born in Cardiff and educated at Ysgol Gyfun Rhydfelen, Gwyneth Lewis won the Prose Medal at the Urdd National Eisteddfod in Barry (1977) and Builth Wells (1978).

She studied English at Cambridge and spent three years in the US as a Harkness Fellow.

Having received her PhD at Oxford for her work on Iolo Morganwg, she returned to Wales, and worked as a television producer.

She left the BBC to concentrate on writing in 2002 and was the National Poet of Wales in 2005-06. She became an Honorary Member of the Gorsedd in 2006.

She has published eight volumes of poetry in Welsh and English, starting with *Sonedau Redsa* (1990), a long poem for her god-daughter in the Phillipines. *Cyfrif Un ac Un yn Dri* (1996) reached the shortlist in the Book of the Year competition, which she later won in 1999 with her volume, Y Llofrudd Iaith.

Gwyneth composed the words on the front of the Wales Millennium Centre building in Cardiff Bay. In 2012, she won the Society of Authors" Cholmondely Prize, recognising an exceptional body of work.

She has written two radio plays for BBC Radio 4, and her first stage play, *Clytemnestra*, was performed by Sherman Cymru this year.

The winning work was inspired by the story of Branwen, in the second branch of the Mabinogi. After losing the war in Ireland, Brân's head was removed from his body.

The Welsh contingent spent 80 years feasting on the island of Gwales near Pembrokeshire, and throughout this period, Brân's head conversed with the group.

The period ended when the door to Aber Henfelen was opened, and they travelled to London where his head was buried, creating the foundation for the city.

The crown is donated by the Vale Council and the financial prize is presented by Islwyn and Ann Jones of Wenvoe.

The crown was designed and created by Anne Morgan of Penarth, and it was her first National Eisteddfod Crown.

VALE'S EISTEDDFOD OFFERS A HUGE MIX OF WELSH CULTURE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Nevertheless, it was the Saturday when the full range of activities and attractions were up and running, and the opening day attracted 18,207 – up on the first day at Wrexham last year by 1,500, despite the rival attraction of 'Super Saturday' at the Olympics.

When this reporter arrived, at 1pm on the Saturday, things were running smoothly. I drove along the A48 from Bridgend, noting the heavy signposting to tell drivers not to travel through Llysworney.

There were no hold-ups, only a modest queue at the Eisteddfod site entrance, which was well marshalled, and a smooth parking system that took me to a space on a field already packed with cars.

The Maes itself was a hive of activity, with people heading off to particular events, or just strolling around, taking in the sights and stopping at various stalls.

I know that it is a celebration of Welsh culture, so apologies, but my first port of call was the food area – and I doubt if there were any complaints here.

I had a patriotic snack, a bacon, cockles and laver bread wrap (very tasty but a touch salty) but all styles of cooking were available.

There was Indian food, burgers, pizza, all types of baguettes and sandwiches – although the most popular still seemed to be good old fish and chips!

This year's Eisteddfod has benefited from being on a site with plenty of tarmaced areas, and walkways meant that there was little danger of the site getting too muddy.

There was a heavy downpour while I was there, and one or two areas were looking a little muddy but in the main, the drainage seemed to be good.

One of the joys of the Maes is just wandering from stall to stall and asking the people you meet to tell you about their organisation.

On the Cymdeithas Cymru-Ariannin stand, Caris Griffith and Elvey MacDonald talked about the society's work with the Welsh-speaking community in Patagonia.

The society is particularly active in education, sending teachers to Patagonia and then bringing promising students to study here in Wales. The subject warrants a longer report, so look out for next week's GEM.

However, Caris and Elvey pointed out that 2015 is the 150th anniversary of the Welsh arriving in Patagonia, and celebrations are planned, so anyone thinking of visiting should bear that in mind.

Incidentally, it is worth noting that, as an English-speaking Welshman, I never encountered any problem at all when I approached people on the Maes.

The political parties like to be seen at the Eisteddfod, and the Greens, Plaid Cymru, Labour, Conservatives and (to my surprise) Seren y Bore (The Morning Star) all had stalls.

Vale MP Alun Cairns said that he was treating the Eisteddfod as an eight-day surgery, and was hoping to see as many constituents as possible.

He said: "I have been coming to National Eisteddfods for 35 years and this site is excellent. It is a great credit to so many people who have worked so hard over the years to bring it to the Vale."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13)

ABOVE (left to right): Lions Laurence Pearce, Harold Jones and Paula Curtis. RIGHT: Helen Turner and Andy Bowdler of Tools with a Mission.

Archbishop's backing for the Eisteddfod

WELSH learners and people interested in the language should feel welcome at the National Eisteddfod, the Archbishop of Wales has emphasised.

Dr Barry Morgan, who is also Bishop of Llandaff – the diocese which encompasses the Vale of Glamorgan, where this year's Eisteddfod is being held – pointed out that the event was open to all, not just fluent Welsh-speakers.

He said: "The Vale may not be a traditional Welsh-language heartland but it is very rich in culture and heritage.

"In fact, the Diocese of Llandaff was one of the most Welsh-speaking of dioceses in previous centuries.

"Today, there are more Welsh speakers and learners in it than in any other part of the Province, because of its large population, and there is a growing interest in using more Welsh in church services, for example.

"It's wonderful to have the Eisteddfod in the diocese this year and I hope all Welsh learners and those interested in the language will go along, perhaps practice their skills, celebrate the national identity we share, and be assured of a warm welcome," the Archbishop added.

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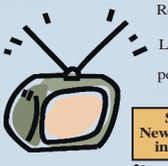

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ABOVE: Margaret and Lita of Bridgend Samaritans with their 'tree of wishes'.

ABOVE: Elvey MacDonald and Caris Grufudd are building links with Patagonia.

The GEM takes a good look around the Eisteddfod Maes

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12)

Mr Cairns added: "I congratulate both the former and current administrations of the Vale Council, and also the landowners and local businesses who have backed this event."

He added: "I am pleased to see so many representatives here from education. I am a great believer in Welsh medium schools, and I think that parents visiting the Maes should take the chance to find out more."

Non political organisations were well represented too. On the Lions Clubs' stand, Harold Jones and Paula Curtis, from Llantwit Major Lions, together with Laurence Pearce of Porthcawl Lions, were keen to tell visitors more about the organisation.

They were pleased with their location, too. Paula said: "We are not far from the Pink Pavilion, and we can hear the bands and choirs really clearly!"

Vale AM Jane Hutt was also there, and she said: "My congratulations go to the local fundraising teams who have raised well over £300,000 in the Vale towns and villages over the past year to make the Llandow National Eisteddfod such a success.

"With the sell-out opening concert featuring the outstanding Only Men Aloud, Only Boys Aloud and Vale children singing their hearts out such a fantastic success, the numbers attending over the weekend were well above target and the rain showers did nothing to dampen spirits!

"I would also like to congratulate all the sponsors, including the Vale Council, which has provided such a stunning display to publicise and promote the beauties and opportunities offered in our county.

"The statue of Iolo Morganwg at the entrance is a key feature to remind us of his important place in the history of Bro Morgannwg.

"Barry Town Council has also provided a reminder of the Barry Eisteddfod, where Dennis O'Neill won a singing prize. He came back this year to inspire us, along with Rebecca Evans, performing the new Karl Jenkins epic piece – sung so wonderfully by the National Eisteddfod Choir on Saturday night."

Another local organisation using the Eisteddfod to raise its profile was the Penarth branch of 'Tools With A Mission' (TWAM), which collects all types of old tools, and even sewing machines, and refurbishes them to send to the Third World.

On the stand was Andy Bowdler from Dinas Powys, and Helen Turner from Sully. who said there had been a great deal of interest in the group's work.

Andy said: "The tools are not sent out in a random fashion. They are made up into tool kits and sent in response to a specific request."

(GEM NOTE: TWAM can be contacted on 01443 210220)

Another organisation using the Eisteddfod to raise its profile and reach out to the community was Samaritans. Two members of the Bridgend branch, Margaret and Lita, were on the stand, offering information to potential volunteers, and telling visitors more about the organisation.

Four hours on the Maes, talking to various groups and seeing the sights only emphasised the huge range of activities and artistic endeavour that comes under the bracket of Welsh culture.

It is hard to see how a visitor could see and absorb everything in one day. Anyone reading this newspaper who has not yet been, should definitely consider going along.

After all, it is 44 years since The national Eisteddfod came to the Vale.

Not quite a 'once-in-a-lifetime' experience – but it comes pretty close!

ABOVE: On the 'Welsh for Adults' stand were (left to right): Angharad Davies (Bridgend); Gwenllian Willis and Gwennan Higham (Cardiff and the Vale).

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Old Cowbridge tale inspires new deli on the High Street

It's surprising what information you can get from your local library.

For new High Street delicatessen owner Jack Farrington, Cowbridge library unearthed the germ of an idea that led to the quirky but memorable rebranding of the shop at 31, Cowbridge High Street, as the Elephant & Bun delicatessen.

Jack dipped into the town's history books and discovered that more than 120 years ago, the building was home to an established bakery.

And the story goes that the circus came to town with an elephant leading the procession down the High Street.

The Bostock and Wombwell's menagerie was welcomed by bakery owner Mary Williams, who fed the elephant a bun.

Many years later, when the circus returned, the elephant remembered its first visit and tried to enter the baker's shop for a sticky treat!

"We were looking for a memorable brand that we could use for the delicatessen, and for future expansion of our own product ranges" explained 22-year-old Jack, who lives at Llanblethian and attended Cowbridge Comprehensive School

Jack explained: "We also wanted to emphasise the importance of being a local family-run business that fiercely believes the future of Cowbridge lies with independent quality businesses.

"We toyed with the family name but always felt there was something more distinctive that would identify us and give us unusual brand value, hence the Elephant & Bun deli was born."

The name has certainly made a favourable impression with existing and new customers and the new 'elephant' grey awning is both eye catching and adds additional 'independence' to the High Street.

"We only took over the business a month ago but have already introduced several new Welsh products, including oils and vinegars, cheeses, cured meats, Granola, cider, beers and wines. We want to identify even more closely with Welsh producers and give a sales window to new, quality Welsh goods."

"Hopefully the Elephant & Bun logo will become synonymous with quality delicatessen produce in Cowbridge," he added.

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Out and About with The GEM

Nearly new sale to raise much-needed funds

A NEARLY new sale will take place at Barry Comprehensive School, Port Road West, CF62 8ZJ, on Saturday September 8 from 11am-12.30pm (doors open 10.45am for NCT members with membership card).

The sale is in aid of The National Childbirth Trust Vale and Valleys Branch (NCTVVB) (formerly Bridgend, Cowbridge and Llantwit Major branch), and funds go towards training three breastfeeding counsellors and two antenatal teachers.

The NCTVVB offers information and support in pregnancy, childbirth and early parenthood. They aim to give every parent the chance to make informed choices.

A suggested donation of £1 per family on the door – baby/children's clothes, toys, equipment (eg prams) and maternity wear available. Sellers contact Julie on 01656 662564 to pre-register by Wednesday September 5, or email: nctnearlynewsales@live.co.uk.

Donations, cakes and raffle prizes gratefully received. Cakes and tea will be sold, and Starbucks will provide coffee.

Non-members are welcome to buy and sell.

A spokesperson said: "A big thank you to all who help at our sales. Helpers are required, and get first pick of the bargains before the doors open."

JP

DR WHO WINNER

THE winner of our recent Dr Who competition was Kay Ann Phillips of Pontyclun, who correctly answered that Matt Smith was the present actor portraying the role of the Doctor.

Congratulations to Kay, and keep looking out for more great GEM competitions!

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YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON AND WHERE IN THE AREA

Blues evening

BLUES guitarist and singer/songwriter Angelo Palladino will be returning to Barry to play at The West End Club, St Nicholas Road, Barry on Friday, August 10 from 8pm. Tickets £4.

Clairvoyance evening

CADOXTON Christian Spiritualist Church is holding a special evening of photographic clairvoyance on August 17 at 7pm. Doors open 6pm, admission £3, all proceeds towards church renovations.

Fibromyalgia support

VALE of Glamorgan Fibromyalgia Support Group's monthly meeting is on August 21 from 11am-12.30pm at the Barry public library. Contact Gaynor Davies on 01446 733315 for further information.

Health event

THE Welsh Ambulance Service, British Deaf Association and Deaf Access Cymru, are hosting a free health information event for those who are deaf and hard of hearing on August 30, between 10am-4pm at Bethel Baptist Church Centre, Heol Miskin, Pontyclun, CF72 9AJ.

For more information, contact alison.johnstone@wales.nhs.uk or call 01792 776252, ext. 5437.

Art show

COWBRIDGE artist Andy Cragg is holding an art exhibition at the Cowbridge Library throughout August.

"My paintings are influenced by the lines and slices of landscape in its abstract, conjuring recollections and moods of places past, present and invented," he says.

Surge of entries for cycle challenge

TY HAFAN children's hospice has reported "a surge of entries" for its annual Taff Trail Cycle Challenge on Sunday, September 2.

"We have a few spaces left on the main 55-mile challenge from Brecon," explained Sali Thomas from Ty Hafan, "with more opportunities to sign up for the Half Taff event, starting from Rhydycar Leisure Centre."

For more information, visit www.thetafftrail.co.uk or call 02920 672060.

'Last Night at the Proms' comes to Barry to aid organ appeal

IN A bid to raise £16,000 for the All Saints Church, Barry, 'Organ Appeal', the Cardiff Concert Orchestra (CCO) are performing a 'Last Night at the Proms' on September 8 at 7.30pm.

The orchestral programme includes favourites such as 'Land of Hope and Glory', 'Jerusalem' and 'Rule Britannia'. The church will be decorated with bunting and, for those who enjoy pre-concert bubbly, there will be a Cava Bar available during the interval.

Ann Elliott, publicity officer for the appeal, said: "Posters and flyers have been put around the town and we really hope everyone will get behind and be enthused with this event.

"The concert is building on the momentum of the year with the Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics, and with only 300 seats we are encouraging that tickets are purchased before the event."

Tickets are £10 each, and can be purchased from Vic Hopkins Quality Butchers in High Street, Barry, The Little Blue Deli, Thompson Street or by calling 01446 745997.

In May 2011, an appeal was launched for crucial repairs and refurbishment to the large organ at the church, and a fundraising sub-committee of the Parochial Church Council was formed to step up to this challenge.

The various organisations within All Saints' Church have organised a number of events during the last 12 months, from coffee mornings, historical talks, a Christmas fayre, line dancing, cake sales, sponsored walks, a vintage train exhibition, music and monologues, to name but a few.

The appeal has also received individual donations which have made a large contribution to the appeal.

Additionally, a 'Sponsor a Pipe' scheme was launched in May 2012 that provides an opportunity for individuals or groups to sponsor a pipe or rank of pipes in memory of a loved one or to commemorate a special occasion.

The appeal total to date is £54,153 and with a further £16,000 required to reach the target, the sub-committee were delighted to be approached by the Cardiff Concert Orchestra in support of the appeal.

Ann Elliott
Fundraising sub-committee

Queen tribute band plays Barry Island

QUEEN tribute band 'Cween' play Barry Island Sports and Social Club on Saturday September 1st.

Tickets are available from www.Wegottickets.co.uk or www.cween.co.uk

Medieval pottery is on display

REMAINS of medieval pottery found during recent work at the church of Merthyr Dyfan will be on display each Wednesday until August 22, from 2pm to 4pm.

Father Robert Parrish has appealed for the loan of any photos of anyone christened or married at Merthyr Dyfan, to go on display.

Photographs can be delivered to Father Robert at 10 Buttrills Road, Barry (telephone 01446 735943).

The parish registers recording baptisms and marriages in the church will also be on display for everyone to see, with a special welcome for all who have family connections.

Re-opened earlier this year after restoration, much of the present church was built in 1250 AD, including most of the walls, the font, the base of the 'Preaching Cross' and the stone altar.

Ty Hafan winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D734.

- **£2,000:** 139826.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £4,500, was not won this week.**
- **£10:** 171360, 233983, 940183, 471810, 185620, 444353, 220605, 258191, 179661, 852325, 891920, 960124, 435962, 267028, 526628, 296510, 525059, 618345, 503784, 595321.
- **£5:** 596832, 608667, 617708, 251354, 702343, 419577, 392096, 573430, 576128, 396552, 365930, 663391, 891812, 273445, 284893, 191493, 414079, 718125, 483798, 672147, 594620, 802454, 468960, 138911, 703859, 252924, 555678, 718829, 440896, 558270, 157000, 175709, 341731, 781093, 674118, 705878, 482915, 115009, 297124, 651263, 838961, 202231, 827007, 284032, 865847, 318463, 802775, 322075, 389132, 670582, 551489, 472075, 643423, 630750, 529482, 503824, 386981, 873781, 533469, 709899.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information, call 02920 672062.

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Taylor Wimpey

TAYLOR WIMPEY PLC IS TO REVEAL PLANS FOR NEW RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT RHOOSE POINT

National Housebuilder, Taylor Wimpey plc is to unveil their plans for the proposed new residential development for land at Trem Echni, Rhoose Point. The proposed development includes areas of open space and comes with a package of proposed community benefits.

Taylor Wimpey plc is keen to seek the views of the local community and set out the wider benefits this development could offer. The local community will be given the opportunity to view and comment on the proposals and ask any questions they may have at Rhoose Community Centre, Steward Road, Rhoose on Thursday 16th August from 11.00am - 7.00pm. Representatives from Taylor Wimpey plc and their consultant team will be on hand to explain the scheme and answer queries.

For more information call Adam on
02920 534700
or Laura on 02920 368905

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COMPLEMENTING A CONSERVATORY

TV garden expert David Domoney provides conservatory and garden tips from the Hampton Court Palace Flower Show

VISITORS to this year's Hampton Court Palace Flower Show did not have perfect summer weather.

However, they were able to pick up some top conservatory and garden tips from TV garden expert David Domoney in the Hampton Grapevine Theatre, an event sponsored by Anglian Home Improvements.

David, who is currently appearing on ITV's *Love Your Garden* with Alan Titchmarsh, provided some great ideas for bringing the best of your garden into and around your home – so that you can enjoy the benefits and beauty of a garden all year round.

He said: "Tropical plants such as Bird of Paradise and citrus fruit grow well in a conservatory, adding a splash of colour and fragrance to a home.

"It's important to ensure that your plants are well cared for though, as conservatories can get very hot when the sun shines."

Technology such as Anglian's Solaroof limits heat build-up in summer and reduces UV penetration.

David favours conservatories where it is possible to open one side to give the plants plenty of fresh air.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 17)

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TIPS TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR CONSERVATORY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16)

According to David, external window boxes are becoming more popular and are another way to bring a little of the garden indoors.

He recommends planting pretty and fragrant varieties such as dwarf lavender to bring colour and scent into the home, or planting herbs such as oregano, sage and parsley by a kitchen window to provide fresh ingredients within easy reach.

Hanging baskets and tubs at the base of the front door are another way to improve the look of your home, making it instantly more appealing.

They can be changed with the season to maintain a fresh, colourful look, while structured topiary such as a trained box will lend a slightly regal feeling to an entrance.

Planting jasmine close to the front door will also add a heavenly scent to complete an impressive welcome for guests.

Arboreal close to nature with allotment

COWBRIDGE'S newest eatery 'Arboreal' has unveiled its very own allotment, offering home-grown, organic seasonal vegetables, herbs and flowers.

Co-owners Badir Saidi, and Sam and Rob Morgan, opened the restaurant last October and, being advocates for local produce, soon decided to develop their own allotment in the restaurant's garden.

Sam Morgan said: "We are already sourcing as much quality produce from the local area as we are able."

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OPEN GARDENS EVENT A SUCCESS

THE 16th 'Open Gardens Trail' in Penarth, held at the end of July,was a terrific success.

The total raised for The Children's Society is in excess of £5,300.

My thanks to The GEM for its generosity in publicising this very popular event. Without it, it could not be as successful.

On behalf of The Children's Society, a huge thank you to all those who supported the event.

Ann Lush MBE.
Chairman, Penarth Fundraising Committee

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ABOVE: Lynda Francis (left) with friends at her surprise party. (See report below 'Scope').

Chain of Office

KENFIG HILL now has a husband and wife team who were both elected to represent Kenfig Hill and Pyle on Bridgend County Borough Council.

What is more, Clive and Pauline James were also elected to be the Deputy Mayor and Mayoress of the borough.

It is quite a boost and an honour for our village to have our local ouncillors chosen for such office. Many people who know Clive and Pauline say that they absolutely deserve this honour, as they have put in so much of their time and an enormous amount of effort in dealing with local issues.

They also support many local organisations such as the Talbot Community Centre, The Adult Learning Centre, Splice, The Local Residential Homes and the Scouts/Guides.

Couns Clive and Pauline James, who are this year's Deputy Mayor and Mayoress for Bridgend County Borough.

Pisgah Ladies Fellowship

SUPPER TIME – Unfortunately, due to renovations starting on the disabled toilet, the cornbeef pie supper this evening has had to be cancelled.

All other similar activities, such as the shepherd's pie supper and the coffee evening in September will be cancelled until further notice.

However, the day trip to Malvern on Saturday, August 24, will go ahead and should anyone be interested, the cost is £14 per person.

For details of this and other events contact either Rhian on 01656 744772 or Karen on 01656 740684.

Kenfig Hill Wellbeing Centre

ACTIVITIES – The activities being held by Mental Health Matters, Wales at the Talbot Community Centre, Prince Road, Kenfig Hill on Wednesday, August 15, will be arts and crafts from 1.30pm to 2.30pm and the reading group from 3pm to 4pm.

It will be a great social afternoon from 1pm to 5pm when everyone is welcome to go and enjoy themselves in a friendly environment with a cup of coffee or join in the activities provided.

Scope

RETIREMENT – Following her decision to retire, Lynda Francis, the Scope project development and centre manager at the Rees Centre in Kenfig Hill, had quite a shock on her last day at the office, when she found colleagues, friends and project members had laid on a surprise leaving party.

She had an even bigger surprise waiting, for among those wanting to wish her well in her retirement was 91-year-old Mrs Hilda Rees, who with her late husband Trevor, acquired the centre for Scope, who in turn named it after them.

Lynda's colleague's said that although she had been with Scope for 20 years, she had been the backbone at the Rees Centre for last 10, building up to what it is today. They said that she will be sorely missed as a colleague and a friend.

The Rees Centre is located at the rear of the Talbot Community Centre, Prince Road, Kenfig Hill. For further information and details of activities and events organised by Scope telephone Donna Akemir-Young on 01656 741166.

McFarlane's cuddly comedy will have you laughing hard!

HAVING created the likes of *Family Guy* and *American Dad*, Seth McFarlane arguably has a strong grip on adult animation, the shows earning a fervent fanbase attuned to McFarlane's crude, but incredibly clever, comedy.

by GARETH JAMIESON

Follow Screen Talk on Twitter - @GEMScreenTalk

A move to the big screen was predictable, and his first film as writer/director is *Ted*. Mark Wahlberg plays John, whose childhood wish that his teddy bear, Ted (voiced by McFarlane), would come to life, is granted.

Having grown up together, their friendship faces a test when John's girlfriend Lori (Mila Kunis) decides that she wants more from the relationship and John faces having to grow up without Ted by his side...

Many films suffer from having a clever idea that doesn't pan out into a good film – *Snakes on a Plane* a prime example of a good concept that isn't worked up into a fulfilling piece of cinema. *Ted* could easily have followed its path, the concept of a teddy bear coming to life and then growing up with the same life experiences as the average person is original, but does it have the legs to become something more?

Well, with Seth McFarlane at the helm the signs were positive, and thankfully the finished product is well worth watching, a coarse comedy that delivers plenty of laughs and a surprising amount of heart.

As anyone who has seen his televisual output, knows McFarlane is throw-everything-at-the-wall type of guy, the comedy strongly, and cleverly written, but with a scattergun approach that more often than not yields big laughs.

That isn't tempered here, the film having more than a passing resemblance to the humour of his shows, but with a more rounded and well constructed foundation to build upon.

There is the usual balance of sweary humour and skewering of pop culture idols (the likes of Katy Perry coming in for a more than gentle ribbing) but with it all comes the tender tale of friendship and the importance of it all, McFarlane showing a thus-far unseen side that shows he is more than capable of layering his baser comedic instincts with a lot more depth and subtlety.

He is ably assisted by some wonderful performances from his cast, not least from Mark Wahlberg in the lead. The actor has hit a rich vein of form lately, and here he offers yet another wonderful turn, building on the comedic turn he delivered in *The Other Guys*.

Performing largely alongside a computer-generated teddy bear (superbly and wittily voiced by McFarlane) Wahlberg makes for a likeable lead, dryly funny and charismatic.

Proving he is turning into an all-round performer, Wahlberg's turn is the highlight here, with the rest of the cast all delivering the goods.

Mila Kunis doesn't have much to do as Wahlberg's girlfriend, but delivers what she is given well, while Giovanni Ribisi, as a stalker infatuated with Ted, and Joel McHale, as Kunis' slimy boss, all have their moments.

Throw in some nice cameos, not least from Flash Gordon himself, Sam Jones, and the cast are all in good form.

Certainly the 106 minute running time feels a little slower towards the end, as the gag rate decreases and a sub-plot involving Ribisi comes to a head, but with the amount of laughs on offer, and the quality turns, this is forgivable.

As sweary comedies involving teddy bears go, *Ted* is most certainly the best on offer!

VERDICT – A high gag rate, and winning performances from the cast, particularly Mark Wahlberg, *Ted* is a laugh riot, Seth McFarlane's big-screen debut a huge success; fans of Family Guy, and of comedy in general, will be well served by this slice of cinema!

Recommended.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKE: Role Models (2008), Superbad (2007)

Choir welcomes Mrs Mitt with melodies from the old country!

A LOCAL male voice choir can look forward to massive exposure on US TV, after being asked to sing for the wife of Mitt Romney, the Republican Presidential candidate.

On a sentimental journey to revisit her Welsh roots, Ann Romney was welcomed back to her grandfather's home town of Nantyffyllon with an unbridled 'Gwahoddiad' by a chorus of traditional Welsh male voices.

Bois Goetre-Hen a'r Cylch (Boys of Coytrahen and District) treated Mrs Romney to a series of inspiring numbers at St. Cynwyd's Church, Llangynwyd, as she took a break from watching the equestrian events at the London Olympics.

Dale Evans, the young musical director of the choir, said: "It was an enormous honour and privilege to sing today for Mrs Romney."

Bois Goetre-Hen a'r Cylch, who use the snappy abbreviation 'BGH' sang traditional Welsh hymn tunes, including the very appropriate and poignant 'Bugeillo'r Gwenith Gwyn' synonymous with the surroundings.

Then, to prove to Mrs Romney that Welsh male voice choirs have a large repertoire, she was treated to a medley of Eagles' songs, 'Desperado', 'Lyin' Eyes', 'Hotel California', and 'Take it Easy'.

Mrs Romney's tears flowed as the choir sang her favourite 'Cwm Rhondda'.

Following their recital, choir secretary Richard Howells thanked Mrs Romney for inviting Bois Goetre-Hen to sing for her and remarked with 'tongue in cheek' that a repeat performance would be fitting on the lawn of the White House in January of next year.

"Wouldn't that be just grand" was the response!

He then presented Mrs Romney with an engraved plaque of Welsh slate, and choir vice-chairman, Tony Hill, presented her with a framed poem entitled 'In Passing' by Brian Harris to remind Mrs Romney of her 'Welshness'.

Mrs Romney responded by announcing that "this really is the highlight of my visit, thank you all so very much, you were wonderful".

The entire event was covered by NBC, the American TV Network and is scheduled to be broadcast to a worldwide audience of more than 850 million on Thursday, August 16.

Bois Goetre-Hen perform regularly in the South Wales area as well as throughout the UK. They are currently preparing for a performance with the Cornish Federation of Male Voice Choirs in the Royal Albert Hall, London in 2013.

Bois Goetre-Hen a'r Cylch (Boys of Coytrahen and District) was formed in August 2009.

A relatively new choir, they are led by a young musical team. As well as the classical male voice repertoire, they perform an extensive array of music including opera, religious and semi-religious items, spirituals, songs from the shows, modern contemporary and pop.

For further information, contact Richard Howells, secretary, at boisgoetrehen@gmail.com or on 01656 737923.

CLIVE MITCHELL

TWO EVENTS PUT PORTHCAWL IN THE SPOTLIGHT THIS WEEK

TWO landmark projects aimed at raising the profile of Porthcawl will be launched in the next week.

Work to create a new multi-million pound marina will officially begin on Friday, August 10, when Bridgend County Borough Council Deputy Leader, Councillor David Sage, officially hands the site to the contractor BAM Nuttall.

The £3.2m harbour scheme is the first phase of regeneration work in Porthcawl and will include a new lock gate with pedestrian foot bridge and extension to the eastern breakwater, engineering work to the harbour walls and a new pontoon system.

The number of berths will more than double to 70, with visitor moorings also available, and the harbour master building will also be renovated.

A BCBC spokesperson said: "The project also forms part of a scheme to make Porthcawl and Swansea Bay a 'Water Sports Centre of Excellence' and is being part funded by the European Regional Development Fund through the Welsh Government, Visit Wales, the council's own financial resources. The programme aims to encourage onshore and off-shore facilities for watersport activity.

Next, on Wednesday, August 15, the First Minister and Bridgend AM Carwyn Jones will officially launch the Bridgend county borough stretch of the 870-mile Wales Coast Path at a special celebration event, at 10am on Porthcawl's main promenade, opposite the Seabank Hotel.

Developed over six years by BBCB rights of way team in partnership with the Welsh Government, Welsh European Funding Office, Countryside Council for Wales, the Bridgend Local Access Forum, Porthcawl Town Council and Cornelly and Merthyr Mawr community councils, the 11.5 mile route runs through Merthyr Mawr, Porthcawl, Sker and Kenfig, and is an integral part of the Wales Coast Path which aims to support local tourism and promote places of interest along its length.

The spokesperson said: "Since the project began in 2007, the council's rights of way team has improved public rights of access from Porthcawl up to Rest Bay, particularly for those with mobility problems and created new access at Kenfig National Nature Reserve, through Merthyr Mawr Warren, Newton Burrows and Trecco Bay.

Coun David Sage said: "These are two really important and exciting projects for Porthcawl and for the wider county borough, as they are sure to attract visitors from near and far. Anyone choosing to walk the coastal path over the next nine months will also be able to witness the transformation of Porthcawl's harbour into an outstanding marina."

The Porthcawl Marina exhibition will be open every Monday 9am-12pm (excluding bank holiday), Wednesday 5pm-7pm and Friday 1pm-5pm until August 31.

Did you know you can read your GEM online?
bridgend-today.co.uk

GEM Food Guide

Summer is set to sizzle thanks to living life alfresco!

The 16th Gastro Alfresco promotional campaign is back and this time it's bigger and better than ever!

The sampling RoadShows will once again be touring throughout the summer, with onboard Chefs and Brand Believers inviting you to 'Come to the Gastro garden-party' starting early July and running until mid September.

The RoadShows will be visiting 75 Tesco Extras up and down the country where talented on-board chefs will be creating a selection of delicious dishes. Shoppers will also be able to sample products from brands including **San Miguel Fresca, Percol, Gü Puds, Shloer, Tyrrells, The Saucy Fish Co. and Encona.**

Another great Glamorgan GEM competition!

Brighten your summer with a Gastro Alfresco Goodibox!

Lots to be won in this easy to enter competition!

No one can dispute that the British summer can be unpredictable, but with this simple Gastro Alfresco competition there's no need to worry about the weather when you could win a Goodibox jam-packed with delicious products from our sponsors.

With all the activity this summer, there's never been a better time to enjoy a staycation and the 16th Gastro Alfresco campaign is here to help you get the best from your summertime living, at-home, alfresco!

This year's Gastro Alfresco is supported by some high profile brands, including: Official Beer - San Miguel Fresca; Official Coffee – Percol; Official Dessert - Gü Puds; Official Soft Drink - Shloer; Official Snack –Tyrrell's; Official Seafood -The Saucy Fish Co. and Official Condiment - Encona.

So just answer this simple question and you could be tucking into some tasty treats!

HOW MANY YEARS HAS GASTRO ALFRESCO BEEN RUNNING? A) 1 B) 6 C) 16

You can find out more about how to enjoy life alfresco including great recipes, blogs and tips on our website

www.gastro-alfresco.com

Like us on Facebook, follow on Twitter @gastroalfresco and watch us on YouTube.

*Send your entries to **Gastro Competition**, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL. Closing date Aug 17, 2012.*

Usual terms and conditions apply. Box content may vary and is subject to change.

The Dining Room

~ Traditional dining ~
with a contemporary twist

We look forward to welcoming you.

Come along and experience our choice of menus for both lunchtime & evening dining.

Our head chef has a London restaurant background, working in both Michelin and Rosette standard establishments. Modern British cuisine with innovative twists on popular British classics, at a very affordable price.

Enjoy our unbeatable Sunday carvery service, with choice of meats and fresh seasonal vegetables to help yourself to.

2 Course Lunchtime Dining & 2 Course Evening Dining Specials only £10
~
New A la Carte Menu available

Visit the Website for our new menus and latest updates:
www.thediningroombarry.co.uk

1-8 Station Approach Road, Barry Island CF62 5TH
Tel. 01446 749355

Tastefully yours...

Mughal Emperor

NOW YOU'VE PROBABLY FOUND THE FINEST INDIAN CUISINE IN SOUTH WALES

RENOWNED INDIAN CUISINE

The varied menu is a careful selection of regional dishes chosen for their flavour and are all freshly cooked to order - GUARANTEED

~ Take-away Menu ~

Caters for Parties up to 120. Spacious New Modern Surroundings

Anhar Miah, his chef and manager have perfected serving their many regulars, now friends, for 20 years!

We are on the A48 at the Cowbridge turn-off.

Opening Hours –
Lunchtime:
Monday-Saturday
12 noon - 2pm
Evenings: Monday - Sunday 6pm - 12 midnight

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Stalling Down, COWBRIDGE. www.mughalemperor.co.uk

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'Award winning, charming, nostalgic'

THE OLD HOUSE INN
MAESTEG

★★★★★ **Food Hygiene Rating**

QUALITY FOOD • Daily specials • Vegetarian
FINE WINES
Children's Menus • À la carte dining REAL ALES

History. . .

THE Old House is one of the oldest pubs in Wales dating back to approximately 1147AD. With its thatched roof, it has to be one of the most visited pubs in the country.

It is steeped in history and was once the calling place of William Hopkin, a local Bard who was involved in that very famous love story "The Maid of Cefn Ydfa"

It has won numerous awards, including Whisky Pub of the Year and is mentioned in most pub guides including the AA camra Guides and Best Pub Guides.

Its walls are covered in lots of brass and copper bric a brac and the inn has a collection of nearly 900 jugs which hang from the ceiling and beams. It has a huge inglenook fireplace with a roaring fire in the winter.

A conservatory dining room, **seating 60**, and the **old restaurant** catering for up to **36 people** are **popular party venues**.

Featured on ITV's 'Great Pubs of Wales'

Presently. . .

SITUATED in the Llynfi Valley overlooking the rolling hills of Mynydd Baiden. It is approximately 6 miles from Sarn services on the M4 and approximately 10 miles from Port Talbot.

Welcome to our Restaurant. . .

JOIN us for imaginative and traditional pub meals in charming unspoilt surroundings.

You can enjoy fine dining in our beautiful restaurant, snacks in the bar, or in our large landscaped gardens.

The David family apologise in advance for any inconvenience caused during their scheduled rethatching, to further enhance their popular establishment.

Telephone: 01656 733310
Open Monday to Sunday 11.30am - 11.30pm
Meals stop at 9pm Mon to Thurs; 10pm on Fri & Sat and 8.30pm on Sun.
Family owned for over 40 years, a warm welcome is assured
www.oldhouseinn.co.uk

Feastival

28 | 29 SEPT 2012

Wales' alternative food festival

Expect the unexpected.
Dylech ddisgwyl yr annisgwyl.

Bridgend Town Centre

01656 786639

Mae Feastival yn cynnwys yr holl bethau y byddech yn eu disgwyl mewn Gŵyl Fwyd, yn ogystal â rhai pethau rhyfedd hefyd...

- Orang-wtang
- Orennau mewn Coedwig Rhodresychen
- Tafiu Cennin
- Cystadleuaeth Golfwng Wyau
- Adeiladu Pont Sbaghetti
- Sioe Pwnc & Jwdi
- Cynnyrch Lleol ac o Gymru
- Stondinau Marchnad
- Arddangosiadau Coginio
- Cyrri-ola
- Cerddoriaeth Fyw a llawer iawn mwy...

Feastival has all the usual trimmings you'd expect at a Food Festival but has some odd surprises too...

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- Leek Lobbing
- Bridgend Egg Drop
- Spaghetti Bridge Building
- Punch and Judy Shows
- Local and Welsh Produce
- Market Stalls
- Cooking Demonstrations
- Curry ola
- Live Music plus loads more...

www.bridgendfeastival.com

This is what happened last year! Dyma beth ddigwyddodd y llynedd!

Fontygary
LEISURE PARK

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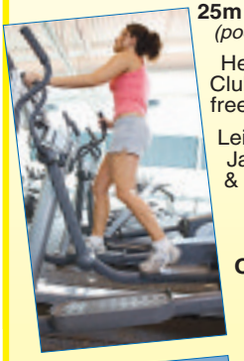
OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC DAILY



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3 Children's Play Areas.

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Open to adults
No membership required)

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LITE BITES CAFE
serving hot and cold food – ice creams, sweets, etc. Also caters for birthday parties, functions, etc.

Function Room available to hire
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The Farmers Arms
"The pub on the pond"

St Brides Major

OPEN FOR FOOD ALL DAY

Breakfasts, cakes, Teas and Coffees served from 10am
Lunches and Evening meals served from 12 midday until 9pm

NEW MENU AVAILABLE

TRADITIONAL SUNDAY LUNCH
Choice of meats, fresh vegetables and all the trimmings

TUESDAY NIGHTS - FISH SPECIAL
THURSDAY NIGHTS - CURRY CLUB

FRIDAYS ARE STEAK NIGHTS
Two Steaks and a Bottle of Wine
– Two for £25
Choose from Sirloin, Gammon, Salmon & Chicken Fillet

- ***Children's Menu Available***
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Tel. 01656 880 224
Wick Road, St Brides Major, CF32 0SE
www.thefarmers-pubonthepond.co.uk

Plough and Harrow

MONKNASH, Vale of Glamorgan CF71 7QQ

YOU will forget the hustle and bustle of daily life when you visit the Plough and Harow. Tucked away in the Vale of Glamorgan, the Plough is situated a short walk from the secluded beaches and windswept cliffs of the Glamorgan Heritage Coastal path, where in bygone days the locals confused passing ships with lanterns ensuring the ships foundered on the jagged rocks before they plundered their cargo. The monks from the Grange would then retrieve the bodies from the beach and store them in The Plough before burial in the local chapel graveyard.

Today the Plough is better known as one of the best traditional pubs in the country. It's like stepping back in time as you enter this old Monastic Grange that dates back to 1383. The pub has retained many of the original features, and its roaring log fires and thick walls give it its unique atmosphere. Real ales are served straight from the barrels - fresh, locallty sourced food is served with imagination and flair and the locals will ensure a friendly welcome! It is the ideal location at any time of the year.

There is always something going on at the Plough - live music features every Saturday night - barbeques in the spacious garden during the summer months and the Annual Food and Beer Festival is a highlight in the calendar.

The pub has featured in numerous television programmes, has been used as a venue for ghost enthusiasts and more recently used as the centre piece of an advertising campaign by the Welsh Tourist Board.

Popular with walkers, cyclists, daytrippers and coach parties, the Plough and Harrow is a unique experience that everyone should encounter at least once in their lives. Like many others, once you visit, you will feel a reluctance to leave.

BAR MEALS
12.00 noon - 2.30pm (daily)
Saturday 12.00 noon - 5.00pm;
6.00pm - 9.00pm
Sunday 12.00 noon - 5.00pm
Sunday Lunch from £7.95
plus Full Bar Menu

RESTAURANT
6.00pm - 9.00pm (daily except Sunday)
Sunday 12.00 noon - 5.00pm
(Booking Advisable)

Can be found in all Good Beer Guides, Alastair Sawday (Top Award) Inns, Restaurants of Great Britain, Numerous CAMRA Awards.
Voted one of ten of the best pubs in Great Britain by the Guardian.
The Plough and Harrow can be found between Llantwit Major and Bridgend.
Coach parties welcome • Normal pub hours

For further details go to our website at www.ploughandharrow.org

Telephone: 01656 890209

CAMRA Pub of the Year 2012

The Vale of Glamorgan Inn

High Street, COWBRIDGE

This is a traditional Welsh pub nestling in the historic market town of Cowbridge. Full of character and characters; wonderful atmosphere, the best of real ales and superb home cooked meals at prices that don't require a second mortgage.

A Real Pub

HOME-COOKED MEALS
Lunch served from 12 noon - 2.15pm Monday to Saturday

- 6 Real ales includes 2 rolling guest ales & scrumpy cider
- Real Fires
- Real Welcome
- Families Welcome

This is a Traditional Friendly Pub with a large beer garden and a Great Family Atmosphere

Tel: 01446 772252

Sportsman's Rest

COUNTRY INN & DINING

MEALS SERVED EVERY DAY
Lunch 12 midday - 2.30pm Monday to Friday
Evening Meals Monday to Saturday 6 pm - 9 pm
Sunday 12 midday - 8pm

TRADITIONAL SUNDAY LUNCH
Choice of meats and fresh vegetables and all the trimmings

Tuesday Night - Fish Specials
Thursday Nights - Curry Club

Fridays are Steak Nights
Two Steaks and a Bottle of Wine for **£25.00**
Choose from Sirloin, Gammon, Salmon and Chicken Fillet

Children's Menu Available.
Outside Al Fresco Dining Area.
Beer Garden and Children's Play Area

We cater for all functions whatever the occasion

Peterston-Super-Ely, Cardiff, CF5 6LH
Telephone: 01446 760675
www.thesportsmansrest.co.uk

VALE OF GLAMORGAN SHOW

Wednesday 22nd August 2012

Fonmon Castle Park, Nr. Cardiff Airport

The Devil's Horsemen
Food Hall
Horticultural Show
Home Produce Marquee
BSJA Show Jumping
Food Court
Fair Ground
Bee Keepers
Cattle, Pigs, Sheep, Goats
Craft Fair
KC Dog Show
Shopping Arcade
Countryside Area
Public Bars
Picnic Area
Laser Clays & Archery
Punch & Judy
and lots more children's entertainment
Over 200 Trade Stands

A great day out for all the family!

ADMISSIONS
Adults £10.00 • Senior Citizens £8.00 • Children £5.00 • Family (2+2) £25.00

Contact: 01446 710099
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'Exhibition is a huge success'

says Atlantic Array developer

A TOTAL of 294 people attended the series of public exhibitions held recently in south Wales as part of the consultation into the Atlantic Array Offshore Wind Farm.

The exhibitions gave details of the results of the environmental assessments for the proposed wind farm and highlighted the changes that had been made to proposals following last year's public consultation.

Members of the Atlantic Array project team, supported by a range of specialists, were on hand to answer questions on the project, wind power and renewable energy generally.

Robert Thornhill, development manager for the Atlantic Array Offshore Wind Farm, said: "Many people were pleased to see that we had listened to their comments and acted on them by moving the wind farm further from the Welsh coast, reducing the maximum number of turbines in our application and reducing the spread of turbines across the horizon.

"We were able to answer questions, discuss people's specific concerns and explain our plans in more detail, face to face.

"Although we have now come to the end of our public exhibitions, the consultation is still ongoing and will not finish until the end of August. We encourage people to fill in our feedback forms, which are available to download on our website – or email or write to us.

"Feedback collected will be used to further shape our final application, which will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate later this year.

"People who were unable to attend an exhibition can still engage in the consultation by reviewing the documents online or by visiting local libraries."

The deadline for responses is 5pm on August 31.

Email: atlanticarray@npower-renewables.com.

Website: www.npower-renewables.com/atlanticarray.

Cats Protection holds a summer carnival

CATS Protection's Bridgend Adoption Centre is holding a carnival-themed fun day to encourage families and children to make the most of their school summer holidays.

The centre is holding the special day on Saturday August 18, offering a fun day out for all the family and a chance to meet more than 200 unwanted cats and kittens in desperate need of new homes.

Activities include a raffle, tombola, bric-a-brac, barbecue and refreshments, stalls, face painting, children's activities, bouncy castle, meet Katsuma from Moshi Monsters, behind the scene tours and more.

One of the cats hoping for good luck is Socks, a very friendly four-year-old male tuxedo cat who came to the centre through no fault of his own. He is one of the longer staying cats in the centre and is desperate to find his happy ever after home.

All monies raised from this event will go directly to help cats and kittens at the centre.

To find out more about the fun day, call the centre on 01656 724396, or email: bridgend@cats.org.uk. A map and directions to the branch/centre can be found at: bridgend.cats.org.uk.

Latest Ty Hafan winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D733.

- **£2,000:** 140076.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £4,000, was not won this week.**
- **£10:** 888216, 172898, 736559, 653225, 241385, 731301, 181369, 192064, 190712, 278005, 713193, 784445, 279873, 364113, 621431, 666530, 359885, 630143, 594873, 520102.
- **£5:** 704321, 749583, 469851, 762943, 101579, 742916, 298051, 327403, 693912, 566903, 332443, 126824, 825271, 122307, 599741, 210567, 132444, 190251, 989554, 993924, 297665, 835237, 880710, 146309, 967922, 705764, 777186, 385711, 373123, 902741, 472075, 156940, 608907, 487882, 772637, 428759, 311393, 327026, 285770, 833539, 896443, 203878, 745705, 367652, 850913, 465539, 479108, 155053, 139028, 306011, 397933, 821186, 559157, 972554, 105703, 841025, 717286, 294716, 527568, 615557, 681919.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information, call 02920 672062.

AMs calling for residents to give views on Array

REGIONAL AMs Suzy Davies and Byron Davies have urged people living in the Bridgend area to let them know their views on the plans for a wind farm in the Bristol Channel.

Mrs Davies, who is a Welsh Conservative Regional AM for South Wales West, visited the exhibition on the Atlantic Array which was mounted in Porthcawl by developers Channel Energy, who are a wholly owned subsidiary of RWE npower renewables.

The exhibition gave details of amended proposals for the wind farm which would see up to 278 turbines installed in an area of sea lying between Gower and Devon. Each turbine could be up to 700 feet high.

Mrs Davies said that it was important that she understood what the public thought of the plan.

She said: "I know that there was considerable opposition in Porthcawl to the previous offshore application at Scarweather Sands.

"Obviously, many people would object to this much larger scheme, even though it is further away from Porthcawl.

"However, I would like to have a range of views before I make my observations to the developers by the end of August."

She said that the amended plan covered a much smaller area of sea than previously proposed, although the area leased by Crown Estates to the company remained the same, stretching 22 miles along the coast.

"There are fears among some people that if this application is granted, the developers may come back for a second bite of the cherry in the future with plans for additional wind turbines within the remainder of this designated area. That is something that must be considered."

Mrs Davies said that she was concerned about the threat to harbour porpoises, dolphins and other cetaceans who breed in the area and live there in large numbers.

She said that pile driving into the sea bed could cause irreversible damage to the sensitive hearing of these marine mammals who rely on sonar to detect their prey.

"There are many considerations that have to be weighed up," she added.

"If a south Wales port like Swansea or Port Talbot were to be designated as the main port for the development then there could be an important boost to jobs and spin off for local businesses."

Byron Davies, who is also a Welsh Conservative AM for South Wales West, said that he was very concerned about the effect on Gower.

"The developers have admitted that the Array would still be significantly visible from Gower despite their changes and that's what concerns me," he said. "Tourism in Gower is hugely important as it is throughout the entire Swansea Bay area.

"I am also concerned about the visual impact generally, and have worries about the effect on our marine mammals.

"At the moment, my inclination is to object to the proposal, but I want to hear what arguments can be put up in favour of the wind farm."

Mrs Davies can be contacted via her email address: *suzy.davies@wales.gov.uk.* Her postal address is Ty Hywel, National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff, CF99 INA.

Mr Davies can be contacted by email: *byron.davies@wales.gov.uk,* with the same postal address as Mrs Davies.

They are also urging people to put their observations into the developers by August 31. They should be sent by e-mail to: *atlanticarray@npower-renewables.com.*

They can also be posted to: Atlantic Array Offshore Windfarm, RWEnpower renewables, Auckland House, Lydiard Fields, Great Western Way, Swindon, SN5 8ZT.

Bridgend planning

Mr Jerome Mathias – **Bargain Booze Shop, Brewery Lane, Tondu Road, Bridgend** – 2 no. Perimeter fascia signs, 6 no. False window effect vinyls and 10 no. poster signs.

Tesco Stores Limited – **land at Cornelly garage, Heol Fach, North Cornelly, Bridgend** – proposed new signage, some illuminated.

Maesteg Animal Welfare – **4 Church Street, Maesteg, Bridgend** – replace existing rear single storey ext with new, re-use blocked up opening on side elevation and new shop front.

Mr Jonathan Griffiths – **5 Penprysg Road, Pencoed, Bridgend** – single storey flat roof extension to rear for disabled person.

The Coal Authority – **land at Craig Y Aber, Woodland, Aberbaiden, Bridgend** – a mine water transfer pipe to treatment area, access road, two ponds, two drying beds, wetland and assoc maintenance building.

Mr and Mrs Beale – **122 West Park Drive, Porthcawl** – single storey rear extension.

Mr S Williams – **Swashways 24/25 West Drive, Porthcawl, Bridgend** – alterations and extensions to existing property – change from 1 No. dwelling to 2 No. dwellings.

Mr and Mrs Williams – **70 Danygraig Avenue, Porthcawl, Bridgend** – conservatory to rear.

Mrs Caroll – **59 Heol West Plas, Coity, Bridgend** – conservatory to rear and associated landscaping works.

Mr Nigel Goodridge – **142 Heol Ty Gwyn, Maesteg, Bridgend** – two storey side extension comprising playroom, shower room, utility room and two no. bedrooms.

Mr G Tainton – **land at and adjacent Gwalia House, Duffryn Road, Maesteg, Bridgend** – c/use of office/storage building to 3-bed dwelling and alter residential curtilage – amendment to P/12/107/FUL.

Mr D Keen – **6 Coed Ty Maen, Bridgend** – construct new garage and utility room.

Mr P Jones – **Brynonen Morse Row, Bryncethin, Bridgend** – rear two storey extension.

Alkane Energy UK Ltd – **plot 1A Ffaldau Industrial Estate, Victoria Street, Pontycymmer, Bridgend** – changes to layout of 11/187 - reposition sub-station and other equipment and new switchroom.

Persimmon Homes East Wales – **Area R21, Parc Derwen, Bridgend** – approval of reserved matters for 27 dwellings.

Mr A Evans – **121 Abercerdin Road, Evanstown, Gilfach Goch, Porth** – single and two storey rear extensions.

Mr S Fedyszyn – **Llangeinor Park, Bettws Road, Llangeinor, Bridgend** – portable storage container.

Another community event sponsored by

The GEM

'The Vale's favourite newspaper' announces this year's Grand Annual

JUNIOR ANGLING COMPETITION

at the

WATERFRONT, BARRY

on

Sunday, 16th September

hosted by Seaview Lads Angling Club at the West End Social Club, BARRY

BOOK IN from 10am *(host rules apply)*
FISHING 10.30am-2.30pm
COMPETITION FEES £1

ALL PROCEEDS TO LATCH CHILDREN'S CHARITY, LLANDOUGH

FIRST PRIZE
ROD AND REEL
plus Annual Trophy
and many, many other prizes

Details from Alan Peterson
Tel 01446 732989

Win a family ticket for Fame! Jr. The Muscial at the Memo

Fame! Jr The Musical

Thursday, 23rd August @ 7.30pm
Friday, 24th August @ 2.30pm
Friday, 24th August @ 7.30pm

Put some Barry sunshine back into the summer holidays this August with a great treat for the whole family!

FAME! Jr the Musical takes centre stage at the **MEMO** in August as part of a new community performance collaboration with *Superstars in the Making.*

FAME! Jr the Musical follows the story of a diverse group of students at New York City's celebrated High School of the Performing Arts who inspired a generation. The Musical ran for a decade on London's West End and has been seen by over 10 million worldwide. Catch your local area's TOP-TALENT in a show that's bound to get the whole family up on their feet and ready to cheer! Who knows? You may be watching a SUPERSTAR in the MAKING.

Remember! Only three shows, not to be missed!

In which year was the hit musical film Fame released? Answer .....

Name .....

Address and post code .....

.....

Tel ..... Email .....

Competition Rules:

1. Closing date for entries: 17.08.12
2. Winners will be randomly selected and informed on 17.08.12
3. Competition prize is a family ticket (4) for Fame! Jr The Musical
4. Employees of BTC of MH&T are not eligible to take part in this competition.

THEATR Y NEUADD GOFFA
MEMORIAL HALL THEATRE
the Memo

Send your answers to:
Memorial Hall and Theatre, Gladstone Road, Barry CF62 8NA, or email us at boxoffice@barrymemo.co.uk with your answer and contact details.

THE GEM ENJOYS A DAY ON THE MAES, AS THE EISTEDDFOD IS IN FULL SWING

PHOTOGRAPHS by MIKE WILCOCK

WITH around 150,000 visitors expected at the National Eisteddfod, there was plenty to see and do.

The group (pictured right) from the Vale Council, were telling visitors all about the attractions that can be found in the Vale.

ABOVE: There was the occasional puddle – and it was a magnet for young children!

These three 'air hostesses' were staging impromptu theatrical performances around the Maes.

ABOVE: Vale AM Jane Hutt with Cath Thomas of Cowbridge, the secretary of the Eisteddfod fundraising committee.

What else on the griddle but Welsh cakes?

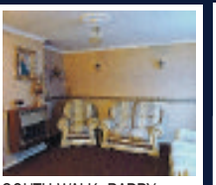
174 Holton Road
Barry
Vale of Glamorgan
CF63 4HN

GROVE ESTATES

REDBERTH CLOSE, BARRY
- A 2 bedroom semi-detached bungalow situated in a quiet cul-de-sac location
- Gas central heating & double glazed
- Private parking & driveway to front
- Conservatory
- Scope to extend subject to planning
- Viewings recommended

£127,500

NEW PRICE



SOUTH WALK, BARRY
- A good size 3 bedroom mid link property
- Gas central heating & double glazed
- Front & rear gardens
- Dated but in good order throughout
- Offered freehold with vacant possession & no chain

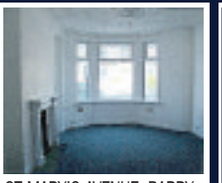
£99,950

SSTC

WENVOE TERRACE, BARRY
- 3 bedroom semi detached property in sought after location of Barry
- Gas central heating
- Double glazed
- Good size front & rear gardens
- Views to rear overlooking Barry dock & Bristol channel

£134,950

NEW

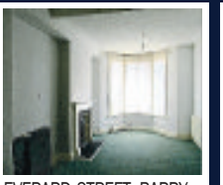


ST MARY'S AVENUE, BARRY
- 3 bedroom bay fronted mid terraced property in good central location
- Gas central heating and double glazed throughout
- Recently renovated to a high standard
- Low maintenance enclosed garden to rear
- Offered freehold with vacant possession and no chain

£119,950

PLAS ESSYLLT, SUNNYCROFT LANE, DINAS POWYS
- Immaculately presented 2 bedroom 1st floor maisonette
- Gas central heating & double glazed
- Private front & rear gardens
- Balcony with views over Dinas Powys towards Llandough
- Off road parking to front
- Set on no through road, offering short walk to semi-rural woodlands

£122,950



EVERARD STREET, BARRY
- Larger than avergae bay fronted 2 bedroom property
- Gas central heating & double glazed
- Through lounge with open plan kitchen/diner
- In need of redecoration throughout
- Ideal for investment or first time purchase

£104,950

SSTC

CYRIL STREET, BARRY
- 3 bedroom mid terraced property in central location
- Gas central heating & double glazed
- Low maintenance garden to rear
- In need of some work throughout
- Offered freehold with vacant possession and no chain.

£74,950

SSTC

MEADOWVALE, BARRY
- 3 bedroom detached property in sought after location
- Gas central heating & double glazed
- Spacious living accommodation throughout
- Driveway & garage
- Conservatory
- Good size garden to rear

£160,000

RENTALS

Coigne Terrace, Barry - £550 pcm
3 Bedroom bay fronted property. GCH, DG, rear garden. Unfurnished.

Cardiff Road, Barry - £575 pcm
2 Bedroom semi detached property. GCH, DG, front and rear gardens. Unfurnished.

Lee Road, Barry - £525 pcm
2 Bedroom mid terraced property. GCH. DG, rear garden. Unfurnished.

Gladstone Road, Barry - £500 pcm
2 Bedroom 1st floor flat in popular location. GCH. DG. Unfurnished.

Main Street, Barry – £390 pcm
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NEW

DOVEY CLOSE, BARRY
3 bedroomed modern detached. Living room, open plan kitchen/diner, sitting room, conservatory, paved driveway. Private enclosed garden, upvc DG, gas CH, side access.
£199,950

NEW

WYNDHAM STREET, BARRY
Spacious living throughout, mid terraced traditional, 3 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, enclosed courtyard, lane access, upvc DG, gas CH via combi. Situated amidst shops, schools. Ideal family home.
£129,950

NEW

BROAD STREET, BARRY
Bay fronted, 4 bedrooms, mid terraced traditional, 3 reception rooms. Channel views from first floor. West End location. Enclosed garden/garage. Ideal family home.
£149,950

NEW

DUNRAVEN STREET, BARRY
3 bedrooms. End of terrace. Through living room. Ground floor bathroom. Enclosed rear garden. No chain. upvc Dg and gas CH via combi. Within walking distance to beaches.
£122,000

NEW

COLDBROOK ROAD EAST, BARRY
3 bedrooms, bay fronted semi. Living room and dining room, fitted kitchen. Driveway/side access. Level enclosed garden. No chain.
£139,950

NEW PRICE

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WELL WALK, BARRY
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JENNER COURT, BARRY
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£132,950

GREENACRES, BARRY
3 bedroomed. Modern semi detached. Living room with French doors. Fitted kitchen opening to dining room (converted garage). Pull down ladder leading to hobby room with velux window. Enclosed private rear garden. Double driveway in width. Offered with no chain .
£139,950

HOLLYROOD CLOSE, BARRY
Extended semi detached, corner position. 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen, garage/parking. Enclosed rear garden. Viewing highly recommended.
£139,950

HARBOUR ROAD, BARRY
End of terraced, bay fronted traditional. Through living room, dining room, fitted kitchen, 4 bedrooms, family bathroom. Garage. Sea views from garden.
£199,950

HARBOUR ROAD, BARRY
Imposing Victorian semi. 3 reception rooms. 5 bedrooms (master ensuite), family bathroom. Original features throughout. Enclosed rear garden. Double glazed. Gas CH. Spacious family home.
£229,950

WESTWOOD RISE, BARRY
Spacious family home. Modern detached. Minutes walk Porthceri Park/Marine drive. living room with solid oak flooring, dining room and conservatory, wc cloakroom. Integral double garage/driveway. No chain. Vacant possession.
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BASSETT STREET, BARRY
In need of some modernising. Benefiting from replacement boiler. Bathroom suite and grant work. Mid terraced traditional. 3 bedrooms, upstairs bathroom. living room and dining room. Garage/lane access. No chain.
£87,500

CHESTERFIELD STREET, BARRY
End of terraced. 3 bedrooms, through living room. ground floor bathroom. upvc DG, gas CH via combi. Enclosed low maintenance garden. ideal first time buy.
£89,950

COLCOT ROAD, BARRY
Extended semi detached. Bay fronted. Living room, dining room, kitchen with open plan sitting area. Utility room, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Detached garage.
£209,950

JEWEL STREET, BARRY
Mid terraced. Bay fronted traditional. Through living room, kitchen/breakfast. Downstairs bathroom. 3 bedrooms, upvc DG. Gas CH via combi. Enclosed garden.
£99,950

ST ANDREWS ROAD, BARRY
3 bedroomed. Semi detached. Living room, kitchen, ground floor bathroom. Driveway, level garden. No chain.
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KINGSLAND CRESCENT, BARRY
Spacious traditional, bay fronted, cul de sac position. 3 reception rooms, kitchen, 5 bedrooms, family bathroom. Garage. No chain. 2010 replacement windows.
£109,950

MAES Y GWENEN, RHOOSE
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£279,950

ESGID MAIR, BARRY
Immaculate presentation. Westbury built, spacious detached, 4 bedrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen/breakfast. Integral garage, enclosed rear garden. Driveway/parking.
£229,950

GEORGE STREET, BARRY
Bay fronted, mid terraced. Through living room, fitted kitchen. Ground floor bathroom, 3 bedrooms. No chain.
£114,950

SEALAWNS, BARRY
Ground floor apartment. Ideal for the less mobile. living room with views towards the Knap. 2 bedrooms, fitted kitchen and shower room, parking. Garage. No chain.
£134,999

WINDSOR ROAD, BARRY
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WELFORD STREET, BARRY
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£169,950

WOODHAM PARK, BARRY
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Good results for the Rest Bay lifeguards

REST Bay Surf Lifesaving Club competeted as the Aberavon SLC Nipper Carnival on August 5, with clubs attending from across south Wales.

Conditions were perfect, with no rain falling all day and light South breeze cooling spectators and the Nippers.

It proved a very sucessful day for the Rest Bay Surf LC squad of competitors with a hatful of Gold, Silver & Bronze medals awarded to the Rest Bay young Surf Lifesavers in a number of sea and beach events.

If parents or children are interested in participating and training in Surf Lifesaving they shouldvisit the Rest Bay Surf LC website: restbaylifeguards.org.uk/Rest_Bay_Lifeguards/Contacts.html

DW

BRIDGEND UNDER-16S TAKE CRICKET TITLE

BRIDGEND Town Cricket Club under-16s won the South Wales Cricket League Zone D with an undefeated season.

Pictured (*above*) are the side that defeated Tondu Cricket Club in the last home game of the season at Newbridge Fields by 61 runs.

Winning the toss, Bridgend elected to bat first, scoring 164 runs for 3 wickets. Tom Dalton scored 54 not out and Owen Davies 45, with T Jenkins taking 2 for 26 and Callum Smeaton 1 for 27.

Tondu responded with 103 for 7, with Greg Smeaton 24 and Chris Matthews 15 not out. Tom hill took 2 for 8 and Sam Pearce 2 for 10.

Chris Roberts has coached Bridgend juniors for the past eight years and, in his final season of junior cricket, has achieved by his enthusiasm and dedication the reward of league champions, after several season of being runners up to Port Talbot.

As a result of winning the Zone D, they now compete for the South Wales Bill Edwards Cup and the semi final is against the winners of Zone C at Newbridge Fields.

CDD

Cavaliers stymied as rain stops play against Cimla

Despite the heavy rain overnight on Friday and on Saturday morning, the introduction of covers at Windmill Lane ensured that the first XI game, against top of the table Cimla, could still go ahead.

First XI captain, James Snelson, won the toss and elected to bowl first on a green pitch. Llantwit opening bowlers, Sam Pickford (7-1-27-3) and Jono Cheal (15-4-36-5) bowled superb lines and really attacked the "corridor of uncertainty".

The opening partnership of the Cavs bowlers reduced Cimla to 54-5 thanks to very well taken catches by Neal Pritchard, Tom Pritchard and Lewis Collins.

However, as Cheal removed Pervez (four) for the fifth wicket, the players ran for cover as the first of several heavy showers fell. The Cavs were off for well over an hour, taking the covers on and off several times. The teams took an early tea before the two teams resumed play in what was then a shortened game of 38 overs per side.

After a lovely tea, the Cavaliers took a little while to get back into the swing of things and Cimla batsman, Arun Rengaswamy (38) took advantage of bowlers who were bowling with a wet ball. Wayne Thomas (18) supported well until he was removed LBW by Cheal with the score on 85. The Cavs picked up another wicket the ball after thanks to a well taken catch by Tom Pritchard.

Julian Griffiths (9.1-1-36-2) finally removed Rengaswamy and Cheal picked up his fifth wicket as the Cavs bowled Cimla out for 108 in 32.1 overs. Cheal fully deserved his five wicket haul and could perhaps have had more if catches in the slip cordon had stuck.

The Cavs opened with Griffiths and Collins, however, after a steady start, another downpour finally meant the game was abandoned. The Cavs were 4 for 0 at the time.

The first team would like to thank all the members of the second XI, who were spectating after their game was rained off, for all of their help in taking the covers on and off and for their support.

This week, the first XI entertain Kidwelly at home, all support is welcome and refreshments are available.

BJ

Golfers enjoy annual ball

Club captain Barrie Edwards and his wife Cora

CINDERELLA was nowhere to be seen, and there was no trace of a prince with a lslipper asking the ladies to try it on, with the promise of a 'happy ever after life' with tiaras, horse-drawn carriages and turreted castles.

Furthermore, very definitely absent were the ugly sisters.

All the ladies were resplendent in their very best dresses and the event was the Pyle and Kenfig Golf Club summer ball, held at the Hi Tide in Porthcawl; it is an annual affair and very well supported.

This year, club captain Barrie Edwards, with his lovely wife Cora, hosted the top table with Roger Parsons acting as MC for the evening.

The food was very good indeed, as was the wine and was the beer. There was a musical duo to entertain followed by a disco and merriment continued into the early hours of the next morning.

According to the fairy tale, once Cinderella had the proper shoes, she lived happily ever after following her ball. In my copy of the book, there is no mention of a hangover. Sadly the same thing cannot be said after the P&K ball. However, most agree that this was a small price to pay for such a splendid night.

To contact Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club please e-mail secretary@pandkgolfclub.co.uk, or visit www.pandkgolfclub.co.uk.

JM

TV finance company helps out local club

LOCAL mini and junior football club, Llangeinor Rangers, has been given a helping hand for next season thanks to leading retail and consumer finance company Buy As You View.

The company donated a 22in LCD TV with DVD player as a raffle prize for the club's annual prize giving ceremony at the Richard Price Centre.

The Bridgend-based business has supported Llangeinor Rangers for the past four years, helping to raise money for pitch fees, kit and equipment, as well as for a Christmas party.

A club spokeswoman said: "Llangeinor Rangers Mini and Junior Football Club is a volunteer-led group so relies on community funding and donations from local businesses to cover its costs.

"The club continues to grow and for the 2012-2013 season, will have teams competing at under-7s through to under-11s in the Bridgend and District mini football section, with an under-12s and two under-14s teams in the Bridgend and District junior football section.

Committee member, Samantha Floyd, said: "We regularly hold fundraising evenings and Buy As You View has never turned us down when we've approached them for a donation.

"Thanks to having such a fantastic, high-value prize we were able to collect around £350 in raffle ticket sales at our most recent event."

Buy As You View communications manager, Rachel Morris, said: We have a dedicated community fund which exists so that we can help good causes such as this in the communities in which we operate."

To find out more about Buy As You View's Community Fund please visit www.bayv.co.uk

Young Seaweeds set for campaign

HAVING been prompted to the Ospreys B league after their first season at youth level, Porthcawl RFC Youth now look forward to a hard league campaign and are also honoured to be in playing in the WRU National Cup competition.

The squad has been strengthened with quality new players and with a strong under-16s coming through, good things are expected from the team.

The introduction of Gareth Barker and Dai Williams to the coaching team has been an instant hit and training has gone very well in preparation for the WRU National Cup game, away to Crymych on September 1.

Pre-season friendlies have been arranged against Pontyclun, Porth Quins and Tondu in readiness for this challenge and the first league game of the season is home to Bridgend Sports on September 8.

Training takes place at Porthcawl RFC every Tuesday and Thursday at 7pm and new players are always welcome.

PB

Pencoed ladies defeat Llantwit

LLANTWIT MAJOR ladies travelled to Pencoed for a Cowbridge Challenge Shield Match.

It was a close game which led to a draw on the all over points. Llantwit won on one rink and lost on two, giving Pencoed six points to our four.

The rinks were Kay Johnes, Ann Mutlow, Margaret Morgan and Julie Molloy (19-9). Liz Crouch, Margaret Horgan, Carol Willmot and May Davies (9-18), Edna Hardie, Barbara Lewis, Etta Gray and Eryl Nicholls (10-11).

KJ

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Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE
LICENSING ACT 2003
To whom it may concern.

I, **ALI HUSSAINI**, do hereby give notice that I have applied to the Licensing Authority (Vale of Glamorgan Council) for the grant of a **Premises Licence** at **13 Vere Street, Barry CF63 2HX** known as **Romeo Pizza.**

The application is for permission to supply alcohol from 4pm-12am on Monday to Saturday, and 4pm-11pm on Sunday.

Any person wishing to make representations in respect of this application may do so in writing to the Licensing Department, Vale of Glamorgan Council Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU not later than 28 days after the date of this notice.
Representations received after this date will not be considered.
A copy of the application can be viewed at the Civic Offices during normal office hours.
It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with this application - the maximum fine on summary conviction being £5,000.
Mr Ali Hussaini
9th August, 2012.

Thank You

CYNTHIA BOOKER
Cynthia would like to thank all her friends and neighbours for the cards and kind messages received after her short stay in hospital.
GOD BLESS YOU ALL

THANK YOU!
Ceri and family of Barry would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to Austin, Melanie and Paul for finding and safely returning our dog 'GYPSY' to us.

'You're our Heroes'

Notices

Exam Results
Are you proud of a loved one's Educational achievements?
Put a congratulatory message in **The Glamorgan GEM** during August!
Two size options available:
3cm x 2 columns only £10 + VAT
or (to include a photograph)
5cm x 2 columns £15 + VAT
Please call 01446 774484
or e-mail gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk
Deadline Tuesday 12 midday for Thursday's publication.

Family Notices

CODY June
June's family would like to thank everyone who attended June's Requiem Mass. To her friends, neighbours and fellow parishioners, we sincerely thank you for your kindness to June over the years.
Many thanks to Fr.Edmund for celebrating Mass, to Arthur Thompson of W.A.Brown & Son for the kindness and help shown. Last but not least Doug Ford for arranging catering.
God bless you all.

EDWARDS John
Joyce and family wish to thank all involved with the love and care of John over the last few months and the years before.
Thanks also to our neighbours and friends for their love and support.

To see your Family Notice in The GEM, please contact us on 01446 774484 or via e-mail at gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk

ROBINSON Ena
Nancy Jenkins would like to thank all family and friends for their condolence cards and messages of sympathy following the sad loss of her beloved sister Ena.

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Birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Dave Reynolds
on 11th August
'The GEM's own easy-rider!'

Love from all your friends at the GEM

Laura Jaroszynski

Congratulations *on your* **21st**
(Sunday 12th August)
Enjoy all your birthday celebrations.
Lots of love, Mum, Alex and Gareth. *x x x*

Articles For Sale

ADVERTISE HERE £12 inc. VAT - box for 2 weeks. To take advantage of this offer simply either send in your description along with a cheque for the appropriate amount made payable to 'The Glamorgan GEM' at The GEM, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or telephone us with your wording by 12 noon Tuesday. All major credit cards accepted. Tel 01446 774484. Advert must contain a residential land line telephone number. You may alter your advert as items are sold. **Sorry no refunds are given.**

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Family Notices

YOUNG *(née Hamer)* **Ethel Marjorie**
Peacefully at the Waverley Care Centre, Penarth on Monday August 6, 2012.
Marjorie (late of Cowbridge) loved wife of the late Irvine, will be sadly missed as an Aunt, Great Aunt, Great Great Aunt and loving family friend.
Resting at James Summers and Son, Lavernock Court, Penarth until the funeral service on Tuesday August 14, 2012 at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry at 2.15pm.
Family flowers only, donations in lieu if so desired for The Waverley Care Centre, c/o the funeral director.

Public Notice

NOTICE OF MAKING OF AN ORDER (OTHER THAN AN ACQUISITION EXTINGUISHMENT ORDER)
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO 36 ST ANDREWS MAJOR
PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER 2012

The above order, made on the 12th day of July 2012, under section 119 of the Highways Act 1980, will divert Public Footpath No 36 St Andrews from the alignment A-B to the alignment A-C-B as shown on the order map.

A copy of the order and the order map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at The Docks Office, Barry Docks, Barry, CF63 4RT during normal office hours. Copies of the order and map may be bought there at the price of £4.00.

Any representations about or objections to the order may be sent in writing to the Director of Development Services, Docks Office, Barry Docks, Barry, CF63 4RT not later than the 6th day of September 2012. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, the Vale of Glamorgan Council may confirm the order as an unopposed order. If the order is sent to the Welsh Assembly Government for confirmation any representations and objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the order.

Dated this 9th day of August 2012

Bombettes hit the beach

ABOVE: BACK: M Phillips, A Moffat, L Phillips, R Beare, R Boffy, L Cahill, H Bannister, K Jones, E Carter, D Provis. FRONT: F Greig, N Boffy, S Richards, C Morgan, Kim Jones, S Horne, J Cole, C Hill, N Yapp.

BARRY Bombettes travelled down to Swansea for the second BRW 7's tournament on July 21 with expectations high for a day of sun, sand, rugby and socialising.

The Bombettes were aware they were up against a stronger side in the WRU womens 7's team. They went down 2-0, but special mention goes to Judie Cole, who sprinted almost the length of the pitch to make a try saving touch.

The Bombettes' final game was played against Tylorstown – our neighbours back at the campsite. This was a good match which was narrowly lost, 3-2.

The Bombettes stayed to the end to support the other ladies' teams through to the final. A great weekend was had by all who went camping, and those that joined us for the day – Rob and Ceri, and Judie and Darren.

Special thanks to Coors for sponsoring the t-shirts, and everyone is already looking forward to next year.

ACM

Golfers are swinging in the rain!

ON Friday night the weather report promised us sunshine and showers.

There was no mention of the torrential monsoon conditions that the players experienced on Saturday for the annual champagne breakfast competition at Brynhill Golf Club.

Greens flooded in seconds, and then drained when the rain stopped. Some of the ladies gave an impromptu version of Gene Kelly's Singing and Dancing in the Rain on the 18th green.

All the competitors returned to the club looking somewhat bedraggled, but still smiling, and the bad weather was soon forgotten in the warmth of the club house.

Club captain Glenn Taylor and the ladies' captain Jo Kirkpatrick presented the prizes.

The men's winners were Matthew Thomas and Carl Williams, and runners up were Sam Preston and Terry Hewins.

The ladies' winners were Lynda Lloyd and Linda Hewlett, and runners up were Chris Hopkins and Glynis Gould.

JK

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Players wanted

DINAS Powys FC under-14s (year-9 age band, September 2012) are seeking some additional players to complement our playing squad.

Training takes place at 6pm on Thursdays at Bryn y Don playing fields, Dinas Powys. If you are interested, contact coach Chris Walton on: 07929 201371.

CW

CELTIC TEST FOR BARRY

BARRY Town start their 2012/13 MacWhirter Welsh League campaign with a home game this Saturday against Cwmbran Celtic at Jenner Park (kick-off 2.30pm).

Gavin Chesterfield's fan-funded side will look to hit the ground running in what has been described as the most competitive division in a number of seasons.

Tickets for each home match will remain at £5, with concessions for children and OAPs and all gate takings going to the non-profit Barry Town Supporters Committee.

The independent BTSC is the primary user of Jenner Park for 2012/13, and will be using its custodianship to maintain family-friendly football at the highest possible level for the community.

AC

Nippers shine at Aberavon

WELL, what a day it was!

Being the middle of the summer holidays and with some nippers away at the Eisteddfod, Llantwit Major SLSC still managed a strong team of 27 nippers to compete at the Aberavon Nipper Carnival on Sunday, August 5.

We all came well prepared for rain/thunder, waterproofs and wellys, but amazingly not a drop was to be seen, just glorious sunshine most of the day. In fact, we were extremely lucky!

All nippers really did give it their all in every single event throughout the day – sea events first with good surf present, which all nippers managed to get out and back in again in one piece!

We didn't stop for lunch until 2pm, then beach events after that, finishing up the day just after 5pm. There were 10 gold, eight silver and 10 bronze medals given to our individuals, but all nippers scored excellent points for the club.

One in particular was Sean McKenna, who won gold in the under-11 sprint which made his birthday! A special thanks goes to Joe Baker who helped us out no end as an under-12 boy.

With a team of just nine boys, we managed to put two teams of six nippers in both the girls' and boys' relay events (Board, Taplin, Beach relays), and as the girls were helping out left, right and centre in the boys' races, most nippers were entered into races well over their age groups, with no complaints whatsoever.

They all did extremely well – getting point after point for the club, which obviously paid off in the end, Llantwit finishing in third place with 1,502 points.

Amazing results – what a team and great team spirit was had by all. We're all very proud of each and every one of you!

CTT

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Eisteddfod welcomes top Welsh sports stars

FOOTBALLER John Hartson and Wales' manager Chris Coleman are leading a special football training session at the National Eisteddfod this week.

The Football Association of Wales is at the Vale of Glamorgan Council's sports arena on the Maes every day between 12.30pm and 1.30pm, until the final day, Saturday, August 11.

Hartson and Coleman will attend the penultimate session on Friday, August 10.

The Wales manager Coleman will also take the opportunity to announce the squad for their next match.

Chris Coleman said: "I am really looking forward to visiting the Eisteddfod next week. It is important that Welsh football and the Football Association of Wales support and play a part in all aspects of Welsh life and culture.

"I have started to learn Welsh and as well as announcing the squad for the Bosnia game on the Friday, it will be a great experience for myself as a learner to be part of such a unique festival."

The Vale Council's sports and play development manager Karen Davies said: "Visitors to the Vale Council's sports stand will be able to enjoy taking part in a number of coaching sessions throughout the week, and see some of their heroes too.

"With sport being such a huge part of Welsh culture, we are really pleased that some of the country's top sports stars will be part of this year's Eisteddfod."

Coun Gwyn John said: "The council is delighted to welcome the National Eisteddfod back to the Vale.

"Our dedicated officers have worked very hard to bring a huge range of activities to this year's event – from athletics, football and rugby to cookery workshops, paintball and Nordic walking.

"And it is great to see the professionals from the FAW, Cardiff Blues and Glamorgan Cricket taking coaching sessions with the youngsters."

For more information visit the Eisteddfod website at www.eisteddfod.org.uk

'Italy' get revenge in tournament

ITALY recently played Spain in the final of The 'HopeToGhana' European Football Fest at Murch Junior School, Dinas Powys.

Fifteen teams from local churches had entered, representing the countries in the 2012 competition. They played through group stages; knock out stages and then the final where, just as in the real Euro Championships, Italy met Spain.

On the day Italy were the winners beating Spain 2-1. The winning team was from Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Barry.

The event raised £800 towards the building fund in Adjei Kojo, Ashaiman, Ghana, where a refuge centre for families will be built.

HopetoGhana express their thanks to all the teams who took part, their supporters and especially to the Murch Junior School who allowed the use of their facilities.

If you want to know more about the charity please go to; www.hopetoghana.com

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Vale footballer leads Team GB charge at London Olympics

AMID speculation he may be about to return to Cardiff City for the forthcoming season, Peterston-super-Ely's Craig Bellamy certainly didn't let the talk cloud his vision as he starred for Team GB throughout their Olympic football quest.

Chosen by Team GB coach Stuart Pearce as one of his three 'over-age' players (the squad being made up of 18 footballers, all except three having to be aged under 23-years-old), Bellamy (33) put all fears about his ageing body to rest as he spearheaded the Team GB attack in all four of their Olympic fixtures.

In fact, it was the Welsh international who Team GB had to thank for securing a point in their opening fixture against Senegal at Old Trafford, Manchester.

Early on, former Welsh captain Ryan Giggs floated in a cross which Steven Caulker nodded down in to the path of Bellamy, who volleyed home to become the first British footballer since Northern Ireland's Patrick Hasty in 1960 to score at the Olympics.

Senegal equalised late on, and so Bellamy and Team GB went in to their second fixture against UAE at Wembley searching for their first win.

Bellamy again starred, first crossing for Giggs to head home at the far post, before again squaring for Tom Cleverly, whose effort rebounded off both posts to safety.

After UAE had equalised against the run of play, Bellamy again sprinted down the wing and sent in a dangerous cross which Danny Sturridge connected with. Ali Khaseif saved, but substitute Scott Sinclair followed up to prod home with his first touch before GB went on to secure a 3-1 win.

Although GB's attack saw less of the ball in their 1-0 win over Uruguay in Bellamy's home town of Cardiff, Bellamy was still one of the more dangerous players in possession and Sturridge should have done better with one delivery whipped in by the Liverpool star.

With another win in the bag, Team GB progressed to a quarter-final against South Korea on Saturday (August 4), again at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium.

Bellamy was again in attacking mood on the right, but GB eventually went out on penalties, 5-4, with Bellamy having been replaced by Giggs with five minutes of normal time remaining.

His quest for an Olympic medal may be at an end, but the former Manchester City and Newcastle striker, widely praised as one of the tournament's top performers, will have a lot of positivity to take in to the new season.

Leigh Gruffydd Sanders

Blues' stars hold local tag rugby sessions

WALES' rugby star Sam Warburton will join his Cardiff Blues team-mates when they visit the National Eisteddfod in the Vale today Thursday, August 9.

Sam will attend a training session and sign autographs for fans at 10am, alongside fellow players Alex Cuthbert, Leigh Halfpenny, Harry Robinson, Bradley Davies and Lloyd Williams.

The Blues will also be hosting tag rugby sessions every day except Thursday, until Saturday, August 11, from 2-3pm at the Vale Council's sports arena on the Maes.

Lloyd Williams, Cardiff Blues and Wales scrum half, said: "It's great that the National Eisteddfod has come back to the Vale. As someone who's grown up in the Vale I know a lot of people have worked extremely hard to get the festival here and to ensure it runs smoothly."

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Have you been inspired by Team GB Olympic Women's Football team? If so get involved now with your local girls' football club.

Vale Ladies & Girls FC are the first girls only football club in the Vale and have teams from under-10s through to under-16s that play in the South Wales girls' league.

A spokeswoman said: "We are currently looking for new players for all of our squads, particularly girls aged 10-13 for our under-10 and under-12 teams. We train every week in the Barry area, including during the summer holidays.

"We welcome players of all abilities; for more information please visit our website www.vale-girlsfc.co.uk or call 07832 273688."

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FAMILY TRIBUTE INSPIRES NEW LOOK FOR PORTHCAWL BOXING GYMNASIUM

THERE were smiles all round recently at the official opening of the refurbished Pyle and Porthcawl Boxing Club gymnasium.

It was a proud moment for the Humphreys family, as it fulfilled the wishes of the late Colin Humphreys, in his prime a Welsh champion boxer, and a lifetime supporter of the gym where he learnt to box.

After his death, his sons, Welsh rugby international Jonathan Humphreys and local schoolteacher Richard, together with their brother-in-law Ed Ellis, set out to raise the funds needed to completely refurbish the gym..

As has been previously reported in The GEM, they organised a sports forum in the Grand Pavilion, and a gentlemen's boxing evening in the OCLP in Bryntirion, as well as golf days.

They also received grant aid from Porthcawl Town Council, Bridgend County Borough Council and a number of local businessmen.

It was a proud moment for all concerned when the gym was ready to be unveiled, and head coach Aubrey Lewis, coach Paul Chappell, and the Humphreys' family were joined by well-wishers for the occasion.

Ed Ellis said: "We have been so impressed with the number of people who have come forward to help – offering their time or giving financial help."

He said that they were literally too many to mention, but added: "Mike and Norah Clarke have been a driving force in helping us apply for grants and liaise with local councils."

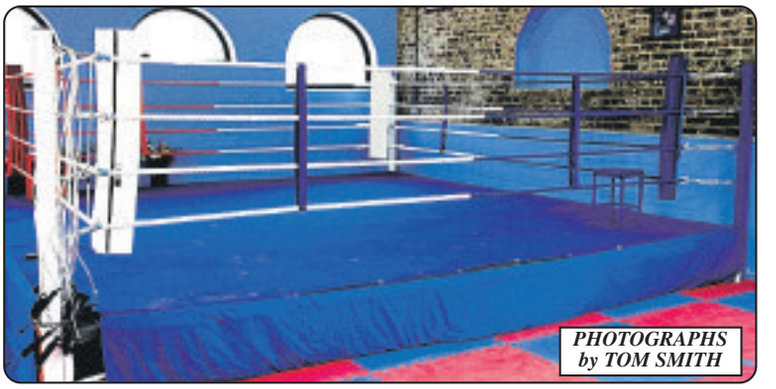
He said that the two weeks before the official opening had been extremely stressful, saying: "Without John Desforges and David Williams, who worked around the clock, the opening date would have had to be put back.

"It was a superb effort by all to open after a five-week internal work schedule."

Ed concluded: "The gym will now, I am sure, flourish, as it is a superb facility and all are welcome to come and see the new-look gym.

ABOVE (left to right): Jonathan Humphreys, Richard Humphreys, Aubrey Lewis, Paul Chappell and Ed Ellis.

ABOVE (left to right): Paul Chappell, Mick Jones of Towers Hotel who organised the dinner at the OCLP Club boxing night, and Ed Ellis.



ABOVE: The boxing gym now has a completely new look.

Ath teams ready to go!

BRIDGEND Athletic 1st XV have arranged pre-season fixtures, both away, to Maesteg on August 18 and Kidwelly on August 25.

They are also entering a team in the inaugural Colin Hillman Memorial Sevens on August 26, while the Second XV are playing a pre-season friendly away at Nantymoel on August 25.

The First XV are playing in the newly formed Championship this season. New fixtures for the club include former household names in Welsh rugby, Pontypool, Newbridge and Ebbw Vale, as well as Bargoed, Beddau and Blackwood.

Joining them from last season's Division One West are Narbeth, Tata Steel, Whitland, Cardiff Metropolitan and Llanharan.

They kick off the Championship against Bonymaen at home on September 1, and then travel to Whitland on September 8.

The Second XV start the defence of their Welsh Championship for Second XVs with away fixtures at Cardiff Metropolitan on September 8, and Bargoed on September 15.

Phases 1 and 2 of pre season training have gone very well under fitness regimes introduced by new coaches Stuart Morris and Paul Jones, who have both just retired from playing.

They are now upping the intensity in training with phase 3, designed to have the teams ready for their pre-season friendlies. Former Wales B Cap and Bridgend player John Apsee is the senior coach, with Rob Greene conditioning coach and former Bridgend and Aberavon player, Paul Yardley, director of rugby.

The club is still looking to boost its player base for the challenging season ahead. Anyone wishing to have a try at either First XV Championship rugby or Second XV rugby at a high level can contact Paul Yardley on 07939 413661 or team manager Paul Hearne on 07970 348065.

AB

LOCAL LIFEGUARDS RECEIVE GRANT AID

Penybont Lifeguards vice captain (left) receiving the £5,000 cheque from Leigh MacDonald and Richard Royal from Ladbrokes.

A surf life saving club has been given a £5,000 grant towards updating its equipment.

Penybont Lifeguards were given the cash from Ladbrokes PLC betting company to support the club in improving its safety, training and educational facilities.

Richard Watkins, club vice-captain, explained: "This fantastic opportunity from Ladbrokes means we can buy safety, educational and training kit. Our younger members will benefit through improved facilities, which will help them to become better lifeguards."

Richard Royal, from Ladbrokes, commented: "Ladbrokes support local community groups and charities such as Penybont Lifeguards who develop healthier and safer places to live. When we heard how volunteers from the club work with local children to give them essential lifesaving skills, we wanted to be involved."

PenyBont Lifeguards are also working to improve facilities at Ogmore-by-Sea. Mark Harrison, club grants officer said: "This year we raised £100,000 to build a new slipway at Ogmore. improving the beach access there.

"We are concentrating on a new community lifeguard station for next year.

"We have been granted planning permission and are working hard to raise the £1million needed. In the meantime, the £5,000 grant from Ladbrokes will help our junior section enormously," he added.

NW

Pencoed RFC teams warm up for season

PENCOED first team have friendlies on August 11, away to Caerphilly, August 18 (a) Pontyclun, August 25 (a) Cwmavon, with their first league game in Division 3 south west on September 1 at Ystalyfera.

Pencoed Seconds have a game on September 1 at Heol-y-Cyw, while Pencoed Phoenix have a friendly at Blackwood on August 19, with a return game the following week on August 26, with their first league game on September 2.

JH

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